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The Willis Family of Virginia.



Willis

"The Knights are dust,
Their good swords rust,
Their souls are with
The saints, we trust."

A SKETCH
OF THE
WILLIS FAMILY
OF VIRGINIA,
AND OF THEIR KINDRED IN OTHER STATES.

WITH BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES
OF THE
READES, WARNERS, LEWISES, BYRDS, CARTERS,
CHAMPES, BASSETTS, MADISONS, DAINGERFIELDS,
THORNTONS, BURRELLS, TALIAFERROS, TAYLOES,
SMITHS, AND AMBLERS.

BY
BYRD CHARLES WILLIS,
AND
RICHARD HENRY WILLIS, M. A., PH. D.

RICHMOND, VA.:
WHITTET & SHEPPERSON, GENERAL PRINTERS.

-1898-



1289009

DEDICATION.

"Far distant he goes, with the same emulation;
The fame of his fathers he ne'er can forget."

—BYRON.

TO OUR KINDRED

OF

THE WILLIS BLOOD,

THIS MODEST LITTLE VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY
DEDICATED.

WE TRUST THAT YOU MAY BE INSPIRED TO
EMULATE THE VIRTUES OF YOUR ANCESTORS,
THE HIGH AND HONORABLE CHARACTER OF
THEIR MEN, AND THE PURITY AND REFINEMENT
OF THEIR WOMEN; THAT IN YOUR
OWN LIVES YOU MAY SHOW CONTINUED
EXAMPLES OF TRUE MANHOOD AND WOMAN-
HOOD; AND THAT WHERE YOU CAN DO
THEM NO HONOR, YOU MAY AT LEAST NEVER
BRING THEM DISGRACE.

R. H. W.

FAVETTEVILLE, ARK.

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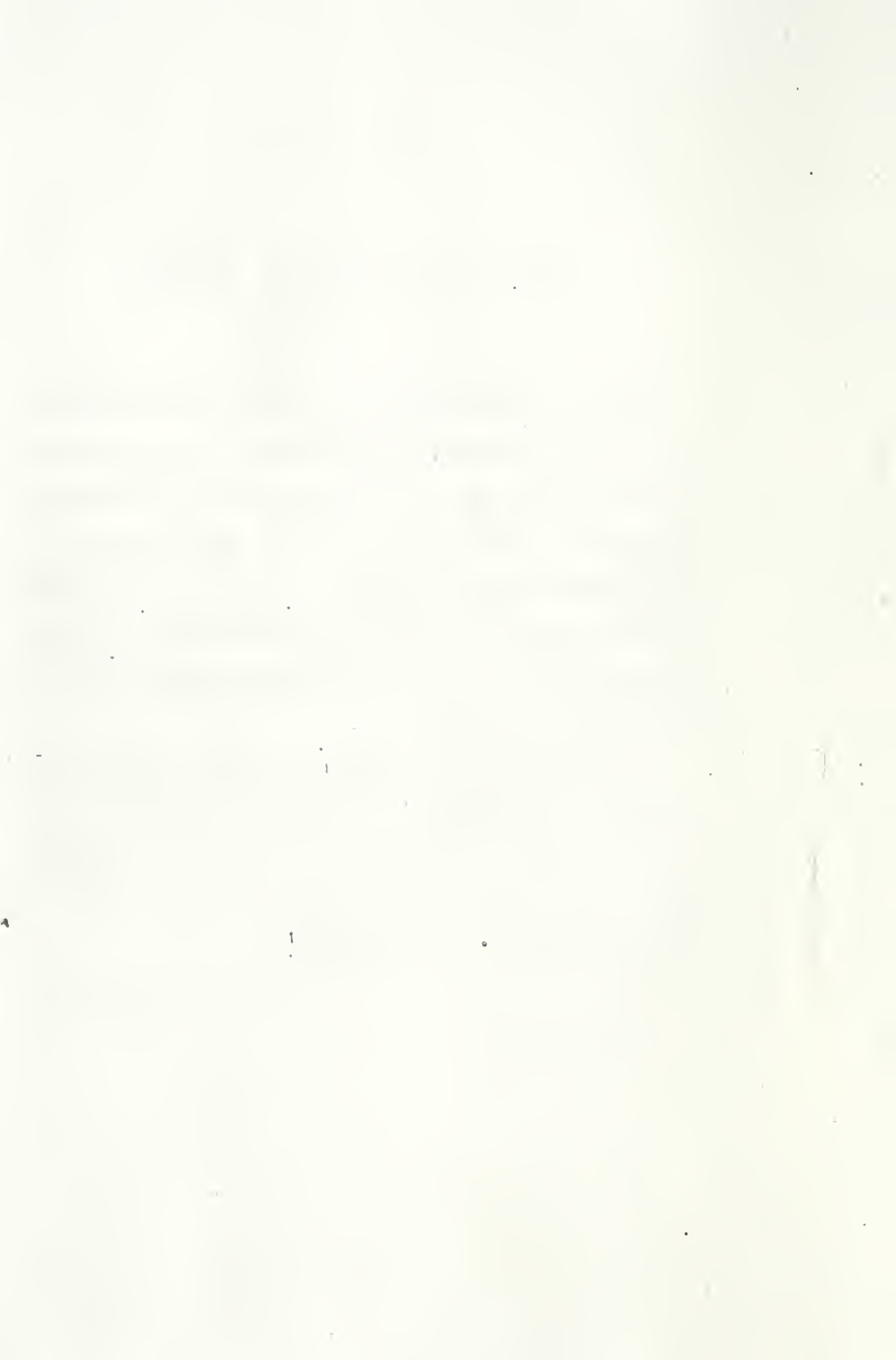
INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

For the benefit of our kin who are to come, we have gathered together and put on record facts relating to our family, relying principally upon old deeds, records and manuscripts for the information obtained. We believe that they will be inspired with the same interest that has prompted us, and that is happily expressed by Col. Byrd C. Willis:

“Vanity had no agency in the matter, but simply to gratify a curiosity, not an unworthy one, I hope; for I have often wished my father and grandfather had taken the same trouble for my particular satisfaction.”

B. C. W.

RICHMOND, VA.



THE WILLIS FAMILY.

ON the records of the great University of Oxford,* in England, for the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, may be seen the names of seven members of the Willis family, who matriculated during the period from 1557 to 1681. All appear to have distinguished themselves in the university, no one of them having taken less than two degrees, and they seem to have been equally prominent in subsequent life, especially in the church.† Five of them received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and later that of Master of Arts; one became a Doctor of Divinity; one a Bachelor of Civil Law; one a Bachelor of Medicine; one a Doctor of Medicine; and three of them held fellowships. Besides this as church dignitaries, three of them became vicars; two became rectors; one was a dean; and one was a canon.

The oldest of these, Francis Willis, is believed to be the progenitor of the Virginia Willises. He is recorded as a scholar of St. John's

* See Foster's *Oxford Matriculations*.

† See Foster's *Index Eccles.*

Collega, Oxford, in 1557, the fifth year of the reign of Queen Mary, and subsequently he took his Bachelor's and Master's degrees with the Bagley prize, became President of St. John's College and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford. He also held for different periods in his life, five prominent offices in the Church of England, and after a life of constant activity and usefulness, he died in the year 1596.

Of the second generation of these Willisess there seems to be no record found as yet.

Third Generation.

John Willis, gentleman, of Oxford, England, was born in 1587, the thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and in January, 1607, the year in which Virginia was settled, he matriculated at New College, Oxford. Here he took his Bachelor's degree, and held a fellowship, and a few years later he took his Master's degree, probably from St. John's College, Oxford, and became rector of Orington, in Hampshire. He had a son Hugh, and two daughters, Francis and Elizabeth.

Fourth Generation.

The New England *Historical and Genealogical Register*, Volume XLI., page 257, contains the will of Francis Willis, gentleman,

which was made in 1689, and proved in 1691. In this he makes bequests to various relatives, and refers to his cousin, Hugh Willis, deceased. The term *cousin* at that time was applied also to nephews and nieces, and his cousin Mary Herren is mentioned as "the daughter of my brother Henry Willis, deceased." His cousin, Hugh Willis, is not described as a son of a brother or sister, and hence we may infer he was a first cousin, and that the fathers of Hugh and Francis were brothers. Now, Hugh Willis, according to Foster's *Oxford Matriculations*, was born in 1625, and was the son of John Willis, gentleman, of Oxford, born in 1587. John Willis, therefore, was uncle of the Francis who made the will in 1689. This was the well-known Col. Francis Willis, who came from England to York county, Virginia, early in the seventeenth century. This Francis Willis, as far as known, is the first of the family who emigrated to Virginia, or who became prominent in the affairs of the colony. We find him in 1642, the eighteenth year of the reign of Charles I., holding a patent for land in York county; and in 1640 he held the important office of clerk of Charles River (York) county. It is said he was a friend of Sir John Harvey, who about that time (1640) was removed from the government of the colony. The new administration,

headed by Sir Francis Wiot, was unfriendly to Harvey, and Willis, who was a high-spirited man, espoused warmly Harvey's cause. Indeed, he did not hesitate to denounce publicly the new governor, his council, and the House of Burgesses.

For this audacious act Willis was deprived of his office of clerk and prohibited from appearing as attorney in any court. He was also compelled to pay a fine of twenty pounds sterling and eight pounds more for charges, and had to stand before the court-house door with a paper in his hat, which, probably, stated his offences and his punishment in detail.

The triumph of his enemies, however, was short-lived; for in two years Wiot was removed from office, and Sir William Berkeley, who represented Willis' party, was appointed governor of Virginia.

Francis Willis now had his disabilities removed, and filled in succession a number of high and honored positions in the colony. In 1648 he was the justice of York county; and when Gloucester was cut off from York, he and Walter Gwin, in 1652, were the first delegates from Gloucester to the House of Burgesses.

He was chairman of the committee that revised the laws of the colony in 1657-'58, member of the House of Burgesses in 1658-'60, and

then was a member of the governor's council continuously until 1675, the year before Bacon's Rebellion.

That year he returned to England in company with his wife Jane. Why he left Virginia is not now known; but it is evident that they intended to reside permanently in England, for they carried with them the family plate and a large quantity of household goods. They resided thereafter in East Greenwich parish, in the county of Kent, where he died in 1691.

The date of his birth is not known, but his will shows that he was born in the parish of St. Fowles, *als.* St. Algato, in Oxford, England. A family tradition says that he inherited his name Francis from his father and grandfather.

He left no issue, but mentions in his will his brothers Henry and William, and his sister Grace, who married Mr. Feilder and had a son Charles. This Col. Francis Willis, after giving legacies to numerous kinsfolk, bequeathed the most of his property, including his large estates in Ware River parish, Gloucester county, Virginia, to his nephew, Francis Willis, son of his brother Henry, deceased.

2. HENRY WILLIS, nephew of John of the third generation above and brother of Francis just described, died before 1689, and left five chil-

dren: Francis, William, Susanna, Mary. (who married Mr. Herren), and Alice.

3. WILLIAM WILLIS, brother of the last two, Francis and Henry, lived on the south side of Craney creek, in Virginia, and owned an estate there. He had a son William. Foster's *Oxford Matriculation* tells of a William Willis who matriculated at Oxford in 1651, became a fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, and took his Bachelor's and Master's degrees there. He died in 1663, and in his will he mentions his eldest brother Thomas, 1637, who was a doctor of medicine, and his second brother John, whether this Oxford William is the same as the father or son above cannot now be determined.

4. HUGH WILLIS, the son of John of the third generation above (now of Winchester in Hampshire), was born in 1625, the twenty-third year of the reign of King James I., and entered the University of Oxford in 1647. He was poor and helped to support himself during his university life by performing certain duties about the college buildings. The civil war between King Charles I. and the Commonwealth was going on also at that time, and for one or both of these reasons his course of study was extended over a longer period than was usual, he took his degree of Bachelor of Civil Law from New College, Oxford, in 1656. In 1665 he be-

came vicar of Thame in Oxfordshire, and died before 1689, leaving two sister, Frances and Elizabeth, and three sons, Francis, Christopher, and William.

Fifth Generation.

1. FRANCIS WILLIS, the son of Henry of the fourth generation above, inherited from his Uncle Francis, who made his will in 1689, large estates in Ware River parish, Gloucester county, Virginia, and also one thousand pounds sterling, together with the cattle, chattels, etc., on the Gloucester lands and all other property of his uncle that was not bequeathed to others. He had a brother, William who was sole executor of his uncle's will, and three sisters, Alice, Mary (married Mr. Herren), and Susanna. He left two sons, Col. Francis Willis, of Gloucester county, Virginia, who married Lady Anne Rich, and Col. Henry Willis, who founded Fredericksburg, Virginia.

2. FRANCIS WILLIS, the son of Hugh, of Thame, in Oxfordshire, England, of the fourth generation, was born in 1664, the fifth year of the reign of Charles II. He matriculated at New College, Oxford, in 1681, where he obtained a fellowship. After taking his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, he began the study of medicine, and became successively a Bachelor of Medicine, and a Doctor of Medicine.

The record also adds of him: "Admon. at Oxford, 23 November, 1702." He had two brothers, William (matriculated at Oxford in 1675) and Christopher.

This Francis Willis appears to have been a literary man, for in 1685, during the period of his fellowship he wrote translations from the poems of Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius, which have been preserved in the library of the British Museum, in London. An index in the same library refers to a poem by Francis Willis, fellow of New College, Oxford, "To his honored friend and relation, Mr. Francis Willis, of Greenwich, upon his discovery of a weed in Virginia which is a present remedy against the venom of the rattlesnake."

3. JOHN WILLIS, gentleman, of Oxford, England, was born in 1666, the year of the great London fire, and entered the University of Oxford in 1689. He took his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, and subsequently became vicar of Ponnerstock, in Dorsetshire, from his date it appears that he belongs to the fifth generation, but his parentage is not known.

Sixth Generation.

1. FRANCIS WILLIS, the son of Francis of the fifth generation, was born in Ware River parish, Gloucester county, Virginia, in 1690, the third year of the reign of William and Mary.

In 1715 he married Lady Anne Rich, daughter of Edward Rich and niece of Elias Rich, Esq., of Saint Paul, Convent Garden, Middlesex, whose will dated January 29, 1719, was served in London, February 11, 1719. (See *New England Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. XLIX., p. 506.) This Francis Willis was a member of the House of Burgesses in 1748 (Burke's *History*), and was living in 1749, the date of a deed recorded in York county.

Anne Rich Willis was born in 1695 and died in 1727. One of her ancestors was — Rich, high sheriff of London and Middlesex about 1440. His grandson was Lord High Chancellor of England, whose son Richard, born in 1498, was made Lord Rich in 1547, and was the first of the family to be ennobled. His descendants were afterwards Earls of Warwick and Holland, but about 1758 the titles became extinct for want of male heirs. When Oliver Cromwell was installed as Lord High Protector of England, Lord Rich led the procession; and his grandson Robert Rich, in 1657, married Frances Cromwell, the youngest daughter of the Protector; she had been at one time affianced to Charles II., but Oliver forbade the bans, saying that Charles could never forgive him for the death of his father, King Charles I. It is said that Lord Robert Rich visited Virginia in company with his brother, Sir Nathaniel Rich.

The Rich coat-of-arms is described as follows: Gules, a chevron between three crosses, bottomnée or. Crest on a mount vert a wyvern argent. Motto: *Garde la fey*.

Anne (Rich) Willis is buried in the chancel of Ware Church, Gloucester county, Virginia, and the grave-stone may now (1897) be seen there, upon which is inscribed the Willis and Rich arms empaled.

The descendants of Col. Francis Willis and Anne (Rich) Willis will henceforth be styled the Gloucester branch of the Willis family, and the descendants of Col. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, will be styled the Fredericksburg branch.

Gloucester Branch, Seventh and following Generations, etc.

The *William and Mary Quarterly*, Volume V., page 172, gives the children of Col. Francis Willis⁶ and Anne (Rich) Willis, as follows: Francis,⁷ John⁷ and Mary,⁷ who married Lewis Burwell, President of the Virginia Council.

Francis Willis,⁷ according to the Abingdon Parish Register, married in 1742, Elizabeth Carter. She was a granddaughter of Robert (known as King) Carter by his second wife, Betty Landon, and daughter of their son Robert Carter. The *Historical Magazine*, Volume

VI., Number 1, says: In 1751 Col. Francis Willis⁷ contributed three pistoles for his annual subscription to Mr. Bacon's school in Talbot county, Md. Mrs. Willis gave one doubloon. His son, Francis Willis,⁸ of "Whitehall," went to school in 1752, to Rev. Wm. Yates, minister of Abingdon parish, in Gloucester, and there found his cousin, Lewis Willis, of Fredericksburg, John Page, Seven Eyre, Peter Beverley Whiting, Thomas Nelson, and other rising Virginians.

Francis* Willis⁷ and Elizabeth (Carter) Willis, had six children: (1), Francis,⁸ married Elizabeth, daughter of John Perrin; (2), Robert Carter⁸ (probably the one who in 1772 laid off Frederick county, and cut off Berkeley county from it, and whose will was proved in Berkeley October 21, 1783), married Martha ———, and had two sons: (1), Lewis Burwell⁹ and (2), Robert Carter⁹; (3), Priscilla,⁸ married, first, Col. William Kennon; and second, David Flower, of Wilmington, N. C.; (4), Henry,⁸ born 1760; (5), Elizabeth, married Mr. McKain, and had a son John⁹; (6), Rich,⁸ died in Berkeley county, will proved the 24th of June, 1789.

Francis Willis,⁸ of "Whitehall," in Gloucester county (born October, 1744, and died July,

* See *William and Mary Quarterly*, Vol. V., p. 173, for old deeds and letters relating to him and his children.

1791,†) and his wife Elizabeth (Perrin) Willis (born August, 1751, and died December, 1791), had, according to *William and Mary Quarterly* (Vol. V., page 176), nine children. Francis,⁹ Elizabeth Carter,⁹ born 1771, married Henry Hiot, attorney at law, died 1802, and was buried in St. Paul's church-yard, Norfolk; John,⁹; Anne Rich⁹ (Nancy), married in 1798 as his second wife, Nathaniel Burwell, of Gloucester, and had children: (1), Claudia,¹⁰ who married James K. Marshall, of Fauquier county, Virginia, son of Chief-Justice Marshall; and, (2), Mary,¹⁰ who married John Jennings; Perrin,⁹ Maria,⁹ Molly,⁹ Nelson,⁹ and Elias.⁹ Of these nine children, only two left children, Anne Rich Willis⁹ and Dr. John Willis,⁹ who married Nelly Conway Madison, daughter of Captain Ambrose Madison (a brother of President Madison) and Mary Willis Lee, a descendant of Hancock Lee), Dr. John Willis⁹ lived at "Woodley," Orange county, Virginia, and died in 1812 of yellow fever. His wife, who survived him, died in 1865. They had two children, Col. John Willis¹⁰ and Mary Lee Willis,¹⁰ who married Col. John Hancock Lee, and died, leaving three daughters, Nelly and Lucy, who both died unmarried, and Letitia, who

† See *Historical Magazine*; *William and Mary Quarterly* says about December, 1797.

married her cousin, Dr. Robert Madison, of the Virginia Military Institute. Letitia died, leaving two daughters, Mary¹² and Letitia,¹² two beautiful girls, who died unmarried in the bloom of womanhood. These Lees are all buried at "Montpelier," in the Madison graveyard.

Col. John Willis¹⁰ married about 1838, Lucy Taliaferro Madison, daughter of Ambrose Madison and Jane Bankhead (Willis) Madison. He lived in Orange county successively at "Rockwood," "Howard Place," and "Oakburn." His wife died about 1868, and he about, 1884, they are buried at "Montpelier." Their eight children are: (1), Mary Lee,¹¹ born about 1840; (2), Jane Champe, married Maj. John Richardson, of Clarke county, Virginia, moved to Savannah, Missouri, and has four children: Maria Jane,¹² Lucy Lee,¹² Ambrose Willis,¹² and Alice¹²; (3), John,¹¹ married in 1867 Lucy Robinson, who died in a few years, leaving a son, Shepherd.¹² John¹¹ married as second wife in 1870, Mary Lupton, of Clarke county, Virginia, and has five children living: Lucy Madison,¹² Bessie,¹² John Byrd,¹² Anna Scott,¹² and William Taylor¹²; (4), Claudia Marshall¹¹ married in 1869, William Wallace Scott, son of Col. Garrett Scott, of Orange, and now (1897) State Librarian in Richmond, Virginia. He was educated at the Virginia Military Institute and

the University of Virginia; practiced law in Lexington and Gordonsville, and was for a time private secretary to his kinsman, Hon. John S. Barbour, of the United States Senate. Their eight children are Philip Henshold,¹² Claudia Dennis,¹² Robert Madisen,¹² Ellen,¹² Garrett,¹² Wickliff,¹² Caroline Barbour,¹² and John¹²; (5), Nelly Conway,¹¹ married in 1877 William Byrd Willis,¹⁰ son of Richard Henry Willis⁹ and Lucy Mary (Nalle) Willis, and has three children: Jane Bailey¹² (born 1879), Lewis Byrd¹² (born 1884), and Mary Leo (born 1886); (6), Lucy Cernelia,¹¹ born 1851, married in 1880, Charles Morris, of Caroline county, Virginia, who died about 1889, leaving no children; (7), Ambrose Madison¹¹ moved to San Francisco, California, and married there Maude Bagley, a native of New Orleans, has a son David Madison¹²; (12), Andrew Johnson,¹¹ became an Episcopal clergyman, and married Margaret ———. Has two sons, Mitchell¹² and Hunter,¹² and a daughter Margaret,¹² all living in Virginia.

This completes the descendants of Francis Willis,⁷ son of Francis⁶ and Anne (Rich) Willis. We shall now trace his brother's line of Gloucester Willises.

JOHN WILLIS⁷ was born in 1719 and died in 1766. He married, in 1743, Mildred Smith, born at "Shorter's Hill" in 1719, a daughter

of Augustine Smith and Sarah (Carver) Smith. This Augustine Smith was named for his grandfather, Col. Augustine Warner, who married Mildred Reade, and was the grandfather of Augustine Washington (father of Gen. Washington). John Willis⁷ and Mildred (Smith) Willis had seven children: Francis⁸ (born 1745), Rich,⁸ John,⁸ Augustine,⁸ Lewis,⁸ and two daughters.⁸

FRANCIS WILLIS,⁸ in 1769, married Elizabeth Edwards, of St. Andrew's parish, Brunswick county, Virginia. They lived a short time in that county, and then moved to Berkeley (afterwards Jefferson) county, which was laid off in 1772 by his kinsman, Robert Carter Willis,⁸ and they lived at "Shannon Hall" on the Shenandoah River. In 1784, they moved to Georgia, and in 1792 we find him in the second Congress as a representative from Georgia.

He appears to have continued his roving habits, for he afterwards left Georgia and went to Maury county, Tennessee, where he died in 1828. His children were Nathaniel⁹ (born 1772), Henry⁹ (1773), Carver⁹ (1774), George⁹ (1776), Mildred Smith⁹ (1778), died unmarried, Thomas⁹ (1781), Elizabeth⁹ (1783).

NATHANIEL WILLIS⁹ married and moved to Maury county, Tennessee, where he died, leaving two children, Henry¹⁰ and Elizabeth.¹⁰

Elizabeth married Judge Kennedy, of Maury county, and her children died young. Henry¹⁰ was also married.

CARVER WILLIS⁹ returned to Jefferson county, Virginia, where he married a Miss Hite. He represented his county in the Virginia Legislature about 1835. At his death he left four children: Thomas Hite,¹⁰ Mildred¹⁰ (died unmarried), Fanny¹⁰ (died unmarried), and Elizabeth,¹¹ who married a Mr. Brown in lower Virginia, and had a son Newton¹¹ and a daughter Ella¹¹ (married).

THOMAS HITE WILLIS¹⁰ married a Miss Ryland, and had seven or eight children: Nathaniel¹¹ married a Miss Washington, daughter of the last Washington who owned Mt. Vernon, and had seven or eight children; Fanny,¹¹ unmarried; Roberta,¹¹ unmarried; Peachy¹¹ married a Mr. Shooks, and lived in Memphis, Tennessee; two more whose names are not known; and last, Ella,¹¹ who married Bushrod Washington, of Charleston, West Virginia, and had several children. Of the other children of Francis Willis⁸ and Elizabeth (Edwards) Willis we have information at present only of Thomas Willis,⁹ born in 1781 in Jefferson county, Virginia, who, in 1812, married Elizabeth Worsham, and died at Washington, Georgia, in 1816. Their children were: (1), Mary,¹⁰ born

1813, married Mark A. Lane and had a son, Thomas¹¹ (born 1829), who died unmarried. Mary (Willis) Lane died in 1830. (2), Dr. FRANCIS THOMAS WILLIS,¹⁰ born at Washington, Georgia, in 1816,* studied medicine in Philadelphia, in 1837 married Elizabeth Butler (born 1819, died 1888), moved to Augusta in 1843, and thence to Savannah in 1849. Since 1867, Dr. Willis¹⁰ has lived in Richmond, where he is greatly beloved. His children were Mary,¹¹ Edward,¹¹ Francis¹¹ (born 1842, died 1870), and Thomas¹¹ (born 1844 and died 1845). Mary Willis¹¹ was born in 1838 and died in 1883; married, in 1864, J. Pembroke Jones, a lieutenant in the Confederate Navy, commanding successively the armed tug "Resolute" and the iron clad "Raleigh." She was a friend of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and their first acquaintance was as follows: In the early part of the war Gen. Lee, being in Savannah, Georgia, called at the house of Dr. Francis T. Willis to see some ladies there visiting the house. He was ushered by the servant into the parlor, where Mary Willis was seated at the piano. She started to leave the room, but he asked

* Dr. Francis Thomas Willis died January 15, 1898, at his home, 211 E. Franklin St., Richmond, Va., leaving an estate valued at \$500,000, most of which was bequeathed to his grandson, Edward Jones Willis.

her to stay and talk to him. After some other remarks he asked how the ladies liked the officers of Gen. Lee's staff. "Quite well," she replied; "but they like Gen. Lee better." The General at once rose, and, stepping back, made her a profound bow. She exclaimed, "Oh! you are Gen. Lee, are you not?" And then the conversation was continued until the visitors appeared. Her children were: (1), Edward Jones,¹² born 1866, whose name was changed by order of Albemarle county court to Edward Jones Willis, and who is now an excellent mechanical engineer in Richmond, Virginia. (2), Emily Pembroke,¹² born 1867, near Newark, Delaware, where her mother was spending several months, and died 1883. (3), Francis Willis Jones,¹² born 1869 and died 1870.

EDWARD WILLIS,¹¹ second child of Dr. Francis T. Willis¹⁰ and Elizabeth (Butler) Willis, was born in 1840 and was educated at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He entered the Confederate army and became colonel of the Twelfth Georgia Regiment which fought through the war in the Army of Northern Virginia. He distinguished himself as an officer, was highly esteemed by General Robert E. Lee, and on May 20, 1863, was recommended by him to President Davis for promotion to the office of brigadier-general; a few days later he was

killed near Bethesda church while in command of Dole's brigade.* General Lee wrote Dr. Willis a very sympathetic letter after his son's death, and complimented Col. Willis in the highest terms.

Fredericksburg Branch, Seventh and following Generations, Etc.

COL. HENRY WILLIS, the founder of Fredericksburg, was a brother of Col. Francis Willis, of Gloucester county, Virginia, who married Lady Anne Rich. Col. Henry Willis was married three times, it is said he courted his three wives as maids and married them as widows; he had children by all. His first wife was Ann Alexander, widow of John Smith, of "Purton," Gloucester county, where he married her November 2, 1714. Issue: John, Henry, and Mary,† Francis, David, and Robert. The second wife of Col. Henry Willis was Mildred Howell (the widow Brown); they were married

* Colonel Edward Willis was killed May 31, 1864; aged 23 years. (*War of the Rebellion, Official Records, Series 1, Vol. XXXVI., p. 389; also Vol. XXV., p. 810.*)

† Mary Willis, born August 5, 1716; Francis Willis, born October 12, 1718; David Willis, born December 17, 1720; Henry Willis, born September 22, 1722; John Willis, born August 17, 1724; Robert Willis, born March 12, 1725. Children of Col. Henry Willis by his first wife, Ann Alexander (widow Smith). (See family Bible of Col. Henry Willis.)

October 30, 1726; there were two daughters by this marriage, Elizabeth and Ann, and son, John.* Two months after the death of his second wife (Mildred Howell), Col. Henry Willis married January 5, 1733, Mildred Washington (widow Gregory), a cousin of his second wife; the children of this marriage were Lewis, Isabell,† and Ann, born January 30, 1734. For the descendants of Hancock Lee and Mary (Willis) Lee, see *Lee of Virginia*. Their ten children's births are recorded in the old family Bible of Col. Henry Willis.

Col. Byrd Willis in his MS. says, "That upon hearing of the death of (Mildred Brown) Col. Henry Willis' second wife, Mrs. Mildred Gregory wept immoderately; upon someone's remarking that it was strange she should grieve so much for her cousin, she replied that the death of her relation was not the sole cause of her grief,

* John Willis, born July 16, 1728; Elizabeth Willis, born January 12, 1729; Ann Willis, born September 14, 1731. Children of Col. Henry Willis by his second wife, Mildred Howell (widow Brown). (See Bible of Col. Henry Willis.)

† Isabell Willis, born June 10, 1733; Lewis Willis, born November 11, 1734; Ann Willis, born January 30, 1734, o. s. Children of Col. Henry Willis by his third wife, Mildred Washington. (See family Bible of Col. Henry Willis, gentleman, of Fredericksburg, Virginia, now in the possession of his great-great-granddaughter, Mrs. Mattie Lee Gaskin, who is descended from Mary Willis and Hancock Lee.)

though she loved her dearly as they were cousins and bore the same name, but that she knew that old Henry Willis would be down there to see her and she did not know what to do with him. The sequel proved that she knew the man, for in a little month the old cock sat himself down before her door and commenced a regular siege; she held out for some time, but finally capitulated, so in less than two months after the death of his second wife (Mildred Brown) he married (Mildred Gregory), formerly Washington,* and sister to John and Augustine Washington. In due time my father, Lewis Willis, was the first of this union."

MILDRED WASHINGTON, the third wife of Col. Henry Willis, was the aunt and godmother of General Washington; she was born in 1696. Col. Henry Willis' daughter, Mary, married in 1733† Hancock Lee, who was born in 1709. Elizabeth married Howell Lewis, they removed to Greenville, N. C., where the husband was a prominent Presbyterian elder, was conspicuous

*Mildred (Washington) Willis, third wife of Col. Henry Willis, died September 5, 1747. (See family Bible of Col. Henry Willis.)

†Hancock Lee and Mary Willis were married January 23, 1733. Hancock Lee died October, 1769, aged 53 years. Mary (Willis) Lee, wife of Hancock Lee, the 4th day of December, 1766, aged 50 years. (See family Bible of Col. Henry Willis.)

in the Revolution, and a state senator; a son of theirs, Willis Lewis, was a member of both branches of the North Carolina Legislature. Howell Lewis and Elizabeth Willis had a daughter named Mildred, who married John Cobbs. Their sons, Howell and John Addison Cobbs, dropped the terminal s, and became Cobb. (Thomas M. Green.) Both were conspicuous in Georgia. Howell was governor of the State, John Addison Cobb was the father of Gen. Thomas R. R. Cobb, of the Confederate army, who was killed at Fredericksburg, while defending the Confederate lines at the foot of "Willis' Hill," now "Marye's Heights," and of Howell Cobb,* Secretary of the Treasury under Buchanan. The Jacksons, of Georgia, are also descendants of John Cobbs and Mildred Lewis.

The following letter was written by General Lee to General Howell Cobb:

CAMP NEAR FREDERICKSBURG,

December 18, 1862.†

GENERAL H. COBB:

GENERAL: I beg leave to express my sympathy in your great sorrow; your noble and

* Howell Cobb was brigadier-general in Confederate States Army February 13, 1862, and was promoted to major-general September 19, 1863. (*Confederate Roster*, by Charles C. Jones, Lieutenant-Colonel Artillery, C. S. A.)

† *Rebellion Records*, Vol. XXI., p. 1068.

gallant brother has met a soldier's death, and God grant that this army and our country may never be called upon again to mourn so great a sacrifice. Of his merits, his lofty intellect, his genius, his accomplishments, his professional fame, and above all his Christian character, I need not speak to you who knew him so intimately and well. But as a patriot and soldier his death has left a gap in the army which his military aptitude and skill renders it hard to fill.

In the battle of Fredericksburg he won an immortal name for himself and his brigade. Hour after hour he held his position in front of our batteries while division after division of the enemy was hurled against him. He announced the determination of himself and his men never to leave their post until the enemy were beaten back, and with unshaken courage and fortitude, he kept his promise. May God give consolation to his afflicted family, and may the name and fame of the Christian statesman and soldier be cherished as a bright example and holy remembrance.

With great esteem, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE, *General*.

Isabell Willis married Mr. Clayton, and from them the Mansons of Lynchburg are descended.

Ann Willis married Duff Green, and moved to Kentucky. (Duff Green was the grandfather of Gen. Duff Green.) They were probably married about 1756. Their children were Willis, Henry, William and Eleanor.

MRS. ANN (WILLIS) GREEN died at the home of Mr. Thomas M. Green's father, near Danville, Kentucky, about 1820. Her tombstone still stands at old Reed Fort. (T. M. G.)

Col. Henry Willis' sons by the first and second wives died without male heirs. One of them, John,* left a daughter, Mary, who married Col. William Daingerfield, one of the first seven Virginia Colonels appointed at the commencement of the Revolution.† He died during the Revolution at his seat, "Coventry," Spottsylvania county, and left a large family.

Col. Henry Willis' daughter, Mary, married Hancock, a son of Hancock Lee, son of the immigrant, Richard Lee. A twin sister of her

*John Willis, the eldest son of that name of Col. Henry Willis, died the 5th of March, 1750. John Smith, stepson of Col. Henry Willis, was born December 17, 1712; died without issue, and left an estate that descended to Mary Willis, who married Col. Wm. Daingerfield.

†In Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Volume VIII., page 152, is the following: "Ordered that an application be made to Gen. Lee to order 500 lbs. of powder, 1000 lbs. of lead, and 200 lbs. of buck-shot to be sent to Col. Daingerfield in Gloucester for the use of the 7th Regiment.

husband was the grandmother of the President Zachary Taylor. One of their sons, Willis Lee, was killed by Indians in Kentucky in 1776. Another of their sons, John Lee, was a lieutenant in the Continental line and a major in the State line in the Revolution. He married Elizabeth Bell, whose mother, Elizabeth Taylor, was a sister of President Taylor's father. They removed to Kentucky, and settled in Woodford county. Their eldest daughter, Sarah Lee, was the first wife of Senator John J. Crittenden and the mother of Gen. George B. Crittenden, of the Confederate Army, and of Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden, of the Federal Army. Geo. B. Crittenden was Brigadier-General in the Confederate Army, August 15, 1861, and was promoted to Major-General, November 9, 1861. (*Confederate Roster*, by Chas. C. Jones, Lieut.-Col. Artillery, C. S. A.)

The Kentucky Legislature adopted, December 14, 1863, the following resolutions concerning Major-Gen. Thomas Crittenden: "The fame of its true, brave, and patriotic men is a part of the wealth of a nation; that of patriots which has been tested in battle is doubly prized by a grateful people. They honor and love those gallant sons who, in the terrible civil war, have been struggling to maintain the nationality of the government of the United

States and the ancient renown of the Commonwealth. In the list of those living worthies prominent among all is the name of Thomas L. Crittenden. His unshadowed patriotism, his modesty and his courage have been signalized from the beginning of this rebellion, while his fitness for military command, and his dauntless courage was ever conspicuous and eminently recognized at Shiloh, Stone Run, and many other battle-fields." (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. XXX.)

Another daughter of Judge John Lee married Dr. Call, and moved to Florida. Gen. George Call,* of the Confederate Army, killed at the battle of "Seven Pines," was one of her sons, and Wilkinson Call, United States Senator from Florida, is another.

Col. Henry Willis, or "Harry," as he was often called, was a man of much means, liberal and hospitable, public spirited and charitable. Col. Byrd, when he visited Fredericksburg in 1732, spoke of him as the "top man of the place." His home was "Willis' Hill," now the famous and historic Marye's Heights, which commanded and over-looked the ancient city of Fredericksburg. He was most prominent in church affairs, and, among other gifts, donated

*Maj. G. W. Call, of the 2nd Florida Regiment, was killed at the Battle of "Seven Pines." (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. XI., p. 964.)

to the church the site upon which St. George's stands. On the 10th of April, 1732, Col. Henry Willis contracted to build two new churches, one at Fredericksburg and the other at Mattaponi. Col. Byrd tells us that during his visit to Col. Willis in 1732, "Parson Kenner edified us with his company. The reverend gentleman had been gotten rid of by the vestry in a very unceremonious manner by giving him notice that he need not give himself any further trouble to come and preach in this parish." The reverend gentleman perhaps deserved his fate, if we are to believe Col. Byrd, who rarely lets an opportunity pass of getting off a joke at the expense of the parsons.

In 1787 in consideration of donations made to the church in Fredericksburg by the father of Col. Lewis Willis, it was unanimously agreed in the vestry that the pew which Col. Lewis Willis formerly held should be vested in him.—*Letters of Curtius by John Thompson.*

In 1727 Col. Henry Willis petitioned for and obtained a patent for certain lands (three thousand acres) situated in the fork of the Rapid Anne in St. George's parish, being a part of twelve thousand acres granted in 1722 to Cole Diggs and Peter Beverley, but which lapsed by their failure to cultivate or improve the same.*

* See *Calender State Papers*, Vol. I., p. 212.

There is now (1897) in the possession of one of the editor's of this volume, a patent for four thousand acres of land on Mine Run, in Orange county, Virginia, granted by George II., in 1738, to Henry Willis, and the same patent shows that he then owned land in the "Manor of East Greenwich, county of Kent, England." Col. Henry Willis was born about 1691-'92, and died September 14, 1740. He left as his executors, ——— Grymes and his son Henry Willis.

COL. LEWIS WILLIS.—Col. Lewis Willis was the only son of the third wife, Mildred Washington (widow Gregory) of Col. Henry Willis. She was a full sister of Augustine Washington, the father of General Washington; he was, therefore a first cousin of General Washington, who was two years his senior. Lewis Willis was born in 1734, he and General Washington attended the same school, and were companions and playmates. Col. Byrd Willis says: "He (Col. Lewis Willis) spoke of the General's industry and assiduity at school as very remarkable, whilst his brother and the other boys at playtime were at bandy or other games, he was behind the door cyphering. But one instance of youthful ebullition is handed down whilst at this school, and that was his romping with one of the largest girls; this was so unusual that it excited no little comment among the other lads."

Lewis Willis was vestryman St. George's Church 1770, and lay delegate to the convention in 1791.

In 1757 Captain Lewis Willis gave up his commission to Col. John Spottswood, County Lieutenant, rather than serve with such officers as Bledsoe and Estis. "Estis was a person returned by the collector as insolvent for his levy, and Bledsoe, a man who had neither land nor slaves in the county, and though he had lived for three years in Spottsylvania, in all that time hath followed no just calling, or so much as given in his tyth."—*Calendar State Papers*, Vol. I., p. 253.

Col. Lewis Willis served in the Revolution as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Tenth Virginia Regiment.* In the *Virginia Gazette* of September 22, 1775, it is stated: "At a meeting of the select committee for the district of Spottsylvania, Caroline, Stafford and King George counties, held in Spottsylvania on the 12th of September, 1775, Lewis Willis was elected captain of a company of minute men for Spottsylvania, and Reuben Briscoe and James Hood were elected ensigns in companies of minute men for King George county, and I further certify that

* Lewis Willis, Lieutenant-Colonel Tenth Virginia Regiment, November 13, 1776, to March 1, 1778, (*Historical Register, Historian.*)

the *Virginia Gazette* above referred to is on file in the Library of Congress.

“(Signed), JOHN L. MECHUM,
Librarian of Congress.”

“Dated city of Washington, January 5, 1833.”

Thomas Minor writes under date of December 23, 1832, to Arche Green: “Lewis Willis I was well acquainted with, and served together in the first volunteer company raised in Virginia. In 1775 there was an act for raising a regiment of minute men, in which regiment Lewis Willis was appointed to the command of a company, which company I joined. We continued with those troops until they were disbanded. In 1776 Captain Willis was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in one of the Virginia regiments, and went to the North, and continued with the army until the regiment was consolidated. Someone has taken off my military book, or I could give you the date when the consolidation of those regiments took place.

“Yours respectfully,

“(Signed), THOMAS MINOR.”

Judge Francis Brooke, under date of March 31, 1833, writes: “I was well acquainted with Col. Lewis Willis, of the Revolution. He commanded a regiment of mounted men at the time of the review of the troops five miles below

Fredericksburg in the fall of 1775. Col. Thos. Minor acted on the occasion as adjutant, Col. Willis was not long afterwards appointed Colonel or Lieutenant-Colonel of one of the Virginia regiments that went to the North. How long he continued in the service I do not recollect. He was an honorable gentleman, and left service without impeachment of his character in any respect.

“(Signed), FRANCIS BROOKE.”

“The petition of Col. Byrd Willis shows that Col. Lewis Willis was an officer commanding a company or regiment of Virginia forces in 1775, and in 1776 was appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel in one of the Virginia regiments (continental.) Soon after his appointment he marched with his regiment, and was in the battle of Brandywine. His ill health and disease which he contracted while in the service, made it necessary for him, Colonel Willis, to become a retiring officer from the army, and accordingly he returned to Virginia. It is not in the power of your petitioner to speak from his own personal knowledge of the services of his father, but those in whom he can place the most implicit confidence, and who had a personal knowledge of the services of Colonel Willis, speak with a degree of certainty, that his services in the army were such as is described in this peti-

tion. This is the first application presented, as is believed, for the usual quantity of land bounty granted to the officers of the Virginia line holding the rank and commission that Lieutenant-Colonel Willis did.

“(Signed), BYRD C. WILLIS.”

This petition was registered 7th of April, 1838. Rejected as not being satisfactory as to length of service. The petition of Byrd C. Willis, together with the above letters, are to be found on file in the State Library at Richmond, Virginia.

Col. Byrd Willis says: “My father grew up a strong, powerful man; to use the language of the day, was considered the best man about; that is, he could beat any man that dared to face him. He told a good story, especially when a Scotchman was introduced. I always thought he would make a good Sir Pertynox in Mecklen's *Men of the World*. He associated in early life with Whitehaven and Scotch merchants; was fond of books and humorous. He died February, 1813, just before the “Waverley Novels” came out. I regret this very much, for *Bailey Jarvis* and the *Antiquary* would have delighted him beyond measure.”

Colonel Lewis Willis was also married three times; first at an early age to Miss Mary Champe, of Lamb's Creek, in King George county, Vir-

ginia. His first child was a daughter, Mildred, named after his mother (Mildred Washington). This daughter, Mildred, married Landon Carter, of "Cleve," and left three daughters; one died unmarried, the others married Robert Mercer and Gen. John Minor.*

His second child was John W. Willis, who entered the army at the beginning of the Revolution, and served through the entire war, and rose to the rank of major.

John W. Willis was first lieutenant, Second Virginia, 29th of September, 1775; captain 15th of June, 1776; major of Fifth Virginia Regiment 12th of May, 1779; retired January 1, 1783, and lived in Spottsylvania county, Virginia. He had a large property, but was a *bon vivant*, an old Virginia gentleman, who kept open house, and when he died and his debts were paid had nothing left.

Col. Byrd Willis in his MS. says of his brother John: "He was sent, as was the fashion in those days, to school in Scotland, but though not deficient in genius, was a wild fellow, ran away, and my father's agent was a long time in catching him to send back to America. On his

* Gen. John Minor married Lucy Landon Carter, of Fredericksburg, and his daughter, Mary Berkley Minor, married Wm. M. Blackford. Issue: Charles M. Blackford.

return, the old man, not knowing what to do with him, permitted him to join an exploring expedition to the West. Kentucky was then a wilderness, they took up large bodies of land, but my brother could never tell where his was.* Finally the Indians scattered the whole party, some were killed, some straggled in, and reported all murdered, whilst my brother and three others got into an Indian canoe on Kentucky River, and descended the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans, then in possession of the French and Spanish. This was the first time these rivers were ever navigated by white men.† On my brother's setting out my father

* Major John Willis landed in Maysville in his exploring expedition in 1774. Hancock Taylor and Douglas were at the head of the party, and Hancock Lee was along. The place where Frankfort now stands was the spot where the party was attacked and scattered. Taylor was killed, and the next year Hancock Lee was killed. This Hancock Lee was the son of Capt. Hancock Lee and Mary Willis, daughter of Col. Henry Willis. (See *Historical Families of Kentucky*, by Thomas M. Green.)

† The following extract of a letter is to be found in the *Virginia Gazette* of September 15, 1774: "Since Col. Preston's letter to you, we have advice by one Bell, who has just arrived in this town from Kentucky, that Hancock Taylor and James Strother were both killed as they were returning from the mouth of that river, where they had been to survey some land. Hempenstall, who was missing when Col. Preston wrote to you, is since come in; he was with Taylor and Strother when they were fired upon by

had sewed up in his belt three doubloons, with injunctions to hold on to them to the last necessity. My father also gave him a prayer-book, and strange to say, he brought it back with him. Strange because I never heard of his using one afterwards. On reaching New Orleans none of the party had a cent but he; the belt was ripped, the money taken out and given to one of the party who pretended he could make himself understood in the town to purchase necessities. The rascal never made his appearance again, nor could they hear any tidings of him.

My brother agreed with the captain of a vessel to work his passage to New York; thence he returned to Virginia afoot.

About that time the war of the Revolution broke out, and he entered the army as lieutenant and served the whole war to the capture of Cornwallis at York. As he advanced in life he became very fat; he weighed at one time from three hundred and forty-five to four hundred and forty-four pounds, was a man of inexhaustible humor, full of anecdote and

the Indians. Taylor lived several days after he received his wounds, and came with Hempenstall and Bell at least a hundred miles towards the settlements. John Willis, John Ashley, and several others are still missing; but they are gone down the river it is believed."

greatly beloved;* everybody remembers Maj. Jack Willis. Poor fellow! he married an heiress and died insolvent. He left three daughters. They married Hoopes, Sears,† and Eppeson." Maj. John Willis married Ann Beale. She died in 1799. Ann Beale's parents were Elizabeth Madison (sister of Col. James, and aunt of President Madison) and Col. Richard Beale.

Elizabeth Madison, born June, 1725, first married John Willis, son of Col. Henry Willis by his first wife, the widow Smith (Ann Alexander). He lived a few years and died, leaving a daughter, Mary Willis, who married Col. Daingerfield, of "Coventry." This Elizabeth Madison was the daughter of Ambrose Madison and Frances Taylor. Frances Taylor was the daughter of James Taylor and Martha

*John Willis was vestryman of St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, 1785. (*St. George's Parish, Slaughter.*)

†Mrs. Sears lived in the upper part of Orange county, Va., in what is now Green county. Her daughter, Mary Sears, married John H. Penny, and they lived near Jacksonville, Randolph county, Mo. There Mary (Sears) Penny died, leaving three children: (1), William Willis, who married Miss Morris, of Howard county, Mo., and died, leaving two children, Georgia and William; (2), John Whitaker, who lived in Helena, Ark., and married there; (3), Mary, who married Benjamin F. Hammeth, of Huntsville, Mo., and had issue. John Whitaker Sears, son of Mrs. Sears above, lived also in Randolph county, Mo. He married late in life, and died without issue.

Thompson. She was sister to Erasmus Taylor, Col. James, and Zachary Taylor; the latter, grandfather of Gen. Zachary Taylor. Mrs. Beale, wife of Col. Richard Beale, had only one Willis child and several Beale children, one of whom married Maj. "Jack" Willis, as above stated. Maj. John W. Willis was a member of the House of Delegates in 1785 from Spottsylvania county, and voted for the famous statute of Thomas Jefferson establishing religious freedom. He seems to have served several sessions with Patrick Henry, James Madison, and the other Virginia worthies of that great period of her history. He also voted with Henry and the anti-federalists in several strict party votes. He died in Richmond. At the time of his death he had attained such size that the framing of the door of his room in the hotel had to be removed in order that the coffin could pass through. His weight at this time is said to have been five hundred pounds. Maj. John W. Willis received the following land grants for his services during the Revolution: 1st, 6,222 acres; 2nd, 888½ acres; 3rd, 144½ acres.

HENRY WILLIS.—The third child of Col. Lewis Willis was Henry.* He married two or

* Henry Willis was a captain in the Revolution, and received 4,000 acres of land for his three years' service.

three times. Left one daughter, who married Gen. McComes, of Mississippi. Maj. Byrd Willis says: "Of my second brother, Henry, I remember but little. He was a very handsome man, without the superfluous flesh of the rest of us. He spent his estate in Virginia, and came early to the South. I have heard that in passing through Georgia and Mississippi he was taken by the Indians, tied to a stake, and his life only saved by a squaw."

Henry Willis was 2nd Lieutenant Continental Artillery, March 1, 1778; resigned November 18, 1778. (*Historical Register, Historian.*)

The fourth child of Col. Lewis Willis was Jane, who married a Mr. Alexander. She died early and left one child, who also died before she married.

The fifth child of Col. Lewis Willis was Mary, who married Mr. Battaille. She died, leaving two sons and two daughters. Her eldest son, John, married Mary Daingerfield, granddaughter of Mary (Willis) Daingerfield, of "Coventry." Her eldest daughter married R. Hoomes, of Bowling Green, Caroline county, Virginia, who left her with a large family. Her next daughter married Muscoe Garnett, of Essex county, Virginia. They had a very large family of thirteen children. Her eldest son, Lewis,

married a Miss Battaile, daughter of Sam Battaile, of "Prospect Hill," who left one daughter, and then a Miss Thornton, of Mattapony.

William Champe Willis and family.

The sixth child of Col. Lewis Willis was William Champe Willis, commonly known as "Gentleman Billy." He was born about 1770, and died in 1843; about 1796 he married Lucy Taliaferro, of Blenheim, in Caroline county, Virginia, who died in 1812, they lived at "Willis Grove" (now "The Retreat"), in Orange county, Virginia. His children in order of age were: Lewis, Lucy, Richard Henry (born 1801), Jane Bankhead (born 1803), John Whitaker, William Taliaferro, Mary Champe, and Robert.

He owned large estates, extending from the mill near the present Rapidan Station to Clark's Mountain and several miles towards Orange Courthouse. These estates are supposed to be part of an original grant made by George II. to Col. Henry Willis. Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis was a descendant of Robert Taliaferro, the first of the name who came to Virginia. The family is a very old one in England, and they claim that one of their number was the wife of King John, an ancestress of all the later sovereigns of England. They also claim descent from the

Norman troubadour, Taillefer who was knighted by William the Conqueror and led the charge at Hastings.

“ Qui moult bien chantraït,

De Roland et de Charlemagne.”

—Wace's *Brut* (about 1155).

Lewis Willis, the oldest son of William C. Willis, married Elizabeth Madison, a niece of President Madison. Both died early in life, leaving one child, Frances, who became the second wife of Col. John Hancock Lee, of “Litchfield,” Orange county, Virginia; from this marriage were born three children: (1), Mary Willis, about 1845, who died early; (2), Lizzie Madison, about 1847, who married William A. Bragg, of Petersburg, Virginia, and now (1897) has three grown children, Hancock Lee, Calvin, and Frances; and (3), Lewis Herman, (born 1849) who married in 1876 Georgia G. Hansbrough, of Orange county, Virginia, and died in 1878, leaving a daughter, Mary Madison, now grown and about to enter Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania. Lewis H. Lee graduated with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1868. His father was a direct descendant of Hancock Lee, who married Mary Willis, of Fredericksburg, in 1733, and also of Richard Lee, the first of the name who came from England to Virginia.

Lucy, second child of William C. Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis, married Armistead Hoomes, of Caroline county, Virginia, and died without issue August 1, 1814.

Richard Henry Willis, third child of William C. Willis, was born in 1801 at "Willis Grove," and died in 1886 at Amherst Courthouse, Virginia. He married in 1831 Lucy Mary Nalle; she was a niece of Hon. Philip Pendleton Barbour, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and of the celebrated James Barbour, who was successively a member of the Virginia Legislature, member of Congress for several sessions, United States Senator from Virginia, Secretary of War, and minister to Great Britain. Her portrait is now in possession of her daughter, Rosalie Carter Willis, at Graysport, Miss. An inscription on the back of this portrait says that it was taken in 1822 (she was then twelve years old), when she was visiting her uncle, James Barbour, then Secretary of War, in Washington, D. C. The inscription adds: "The artist Bomen was so struck with her beauty that he asked the privilege of painting her picture and then presented her a copy. The gallant Lieutenant Lewis Herndon, of the United States Navy (he was the father-in-law of President Arthur), who went down with the ship *Central America* after saving all the lives he

could, would gaze at this portrait by the hour. He had travelled a great deal, and said it was prettier than anything he had seen in Italy or elsewhere." Lucy (Nalle) Willis was a daughter of Martin Nalle, of Stephensburg, Culpeper county, Virginia, and Eleanor (Barbour) Nalle, and after her marriage to Richard Henry Willis they lived at "Willis Hall," in Orange county, Virginia, a part of the original estate of William C. Willis. Here eleven children were born to them: Lewis (1832), Thomas Barbour (1834), William Byrd, Nellie Madison, Mary Champe, Fanny Branch, Rosalie Carter, Lucy Taliaferro, Richard Henry, Lizzie Burns, and Philip Pendleton (1855). Lucy Mary Willis died in 1855, and was buried at "Willis Grove." In 1863 her husband moved to "Sunny Side," three miles south of Orange Courthouse, and resided there until a short time before his death. He is buried at "Willis Grove," and upon his tombstone is inscribed:

"Through life he bore without abuse,
The grand old name of gentleman."

Lewis Willis, oldest child of Richard Henry Willis and Lucy Mary Willis, graduated with distinction from the University of Virginia, and was for a few years a teacher in the Episcopal High School near Alexandria. He died unmarried, at the early age of twenty-five.

Thomas Barbour, second child of R. H. Willis, emigrated to Missouri, and subsequently joined the United States Army, became an officer, and served several years in Utah, Wyoming, and adjacent States (then territories.) Soon after the beginning of the war between the States, he joined a Missouri regiment in the Confederate Army and served in several campaigns in southern Missouri and Arkansas. Here he was captured and held a prisoner nearly two years, mainly at Fort Delaware, but was exchanged early in 1865. In 1869, he married Estelle Butcher, of Carrollton, Missouri, a niece of Gen. Eppa Hunton, of Virginia. Subsequently he moved to Wolf Creek, Montana, and died there in 1897 without issue. William Byrd, third child of R. H. Willis, was educated at the University of Virginia, and afterwards went into business in Mobile, Alabama. At the opening of the war he joined the Mobile Cadets of the 3rd Alabama Regiment, and during the first year took part in the operations around Norfolk. The next year he fought in several of the battles around Richmond, and after the invasion of Maryland was transferred to Fry's Battery, in which he served as sergeant till the close of the war. After the war he lived successively in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Virginia; but

for ten years past has resided in Los Galos, California. In 1877, he married his cousin, Nelly Conway Willis, daughter of Col. John Willis, of Orange, and Lucy (Madison) Willis, and has three children: (1), Jane Bailey, born 1880; (2), Lewis, born 1884; (3), Mary Lee, born 1886.

Nelly Madison, fourth child of R. H. Willis, married Martin Stringfellow,* of Raccoon Ford, Culpeper county, Virginia, in 1860, and had six children: (1), Rittenhouse, born 1861, lives in Montana unmarried; (2), Henry Willis lives in Montana, is married and has one child; (3), Lewis now lives in Arizona; (4), Robert Stanton is now assistant to the Bishop of Montana in Helena; (5), Ann married, in 1894, John Taylor, of Richmond, Virginia, and has one child; (6), Mary Champe married, in 1896, Ashby Taylor, of Richmond, Virginia.

Mary Champe Willis, fifth child of R. H. Willis and Lucy Mary Willis, married, in 1860, Charles Ogilive Young, of Spottsylvania county, Virginia, and had one child, Mary Ogilive, born 1861, who died in 1883 unmarried. She was a

*Martin S. Stringfellow served through the war between the States, in Company A, 13th Virginia Regiment. He was a splendid soldier, and was made 1st Lieutenant for gallant conduct on the field of battle by General Jubal Early.

beautiful girl, and was greatly loved and admired. Charles O. Young, at the beginning of the war, entered the Confederate service, and died at Winchester, Virginia, in 1862. His widow, some fifteen years later, married Rev. John T. Moore, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. - Has no issue.

Fanny Branch, sixth child of R. H. Willis, became, in 1893, the second wife of her cousin, James Ambrose Madison, son of Ambrose Madison and Jane (Willis) Madison, and grandnephew of President James Madison. They reside near Orange C. H., Virginia, and have no issue.

Rosalie Carter, seventh child of R. H. Willis, married, in 1870, her cousin, Randolph Benton Willis of Graysport, Mississippi, and has three children: (1), Wm. Starke, born 1872, married, in 1896, Maud Mays; (2), Lewis, born in 1874, married, in 1895, Florence Ingraham, and has a daughter, Rosalie Carter; (3), Randolph Benton, born 1887.

Lucy Taliaferro, eighth child of R. H. Willis and Lucy Mary Willis, died unmarried about 1881. She was buried at "Willis Grove."

Richard Henry Willis, ninth child of R. H. Willis and Lucy Mary Willis,* was graduated with distinction from the University of Vir-

* Was born at "Willis Hall," August 16, 1849.

ginia, and subsequently became professor of Greek and English in the University of Nashville, Tennessee. He then taught for several years in the Norwood High School and College, Nelson county, Virginia, and in Savannah, Georgia. In 1885, he became professor of ancient languages in the State University of Arkansas, at Fayetteville, where he remained till 1888. He then held, successively, positions in the Dallas, Oregon, and in Anniston, Alabama, and returned to the Arkansas University in 1891 as professor of English and Modern Languages. He holds the following degrees: B. A., Arkansas University, 1887; M. A., Willamette University, Oregon, 1889; M. A., Illinois W. University, 1893; M. A., Princeton, 1894; Ph. D., Illinois W. University, 1895. He pursued a number of studies in the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and also studied in Europe. He is a member of the American Philological Association and of the Modern Language Association of America. In 1837 he married Elizabeth May Hall, of Syracuse, N. Y., and has two children: (1), Richard Lee, born 1893; (2), Katharine Murat, born 1895. Lizzie Burns Willis, tenth child of R. H. Willis and Lucy Mary Willis, married about 1882 Dr. ——— Tillman, of Graysport, Miss., who had emigrated from North Carolina, and has one child, Lucetta Bonton, born 1885.

Philip Pendleton, eleventh child of R. H. Willis, settled in near Graysport, Grenada county, Miss., about 1875, and married in 1884, Mary Ingraham. They have two children: George Frank, born 1887; (2), Philip Henry, born 1892.

The fourth child of Wm. Champe Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis was Jane Bankhead, born 1803 and died 1862. She was buried in the Madison cometary at Montpelier, Orange county, Virginia. She married Ambrose Madison,* nephew of President Madison, and had six children: Lucy Taliaferro, born 1820; Mary Francis, born 1822; William Willis, born 1826; James Ambrose, born 1828; Eliza Lewis, born 1834; Leila Bankhead, born 1837.

Lucy Madison married Col. John Willis, of Orange county, Virginia, a son of Dr. John Willis and Nelly (Conway) Willis, and a direct descendant of Col. Francis Willis and Lady Anne Rich, of Gloucester. Their eight children are given in the Gloucester branch of the Willis family.

Mary Francis Madison married Col. Robert Marye, of Fredericksburg, and has two sons: Alfred married Nancy Anderson, and had issue; (2), Ambrose Madison, unmarried.

* Ambrose Madison lived at "Woodbury Forest," Madison county, Virginia.

William Willis Madison married Roberta Taliaferro, of Fauquier county, Virginia. They moved to Texas about 1859, and William, after his wife's death, lived in Shreveport, La., and died there about 1888. His children died unmarried.

James A. Madison married in 1850 Lucy Hiden, daughter of Joseph Hiden, of Orange C. H., Va., and has now living six children: (1), Ambrose Gilmer, born 1851, married Margaret McGary, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and lives there. They have five children—Margaret, Kate, William, Ambrose, and Annie; (2), Fanny Throckmorton married Rev. Jos. A. French, and has no issue; (3), Susan Daniel, unmarried; (4), James, a teacher, unmarried; (5), Edward Cooper, married Elizabeth Stagg, and lives near Newport News, Va. Their children are John Renshaw, Susan Daniel, and Lucy Hiden; (6), Joseph Hiden, born 1868, unmarried.

Eliza Lewis Madison married Dorsey Taliaferro,* son of Dr. Wm. Taliaferro, of Fauquier county, Va., and had six children, three of whom are known: (1), Fanny Lewis; (2), Jane, who

* Dorsey Taliaferro served the last three years of the war between the States in the Trans-Mississippi department. He attained the rank of a colonel in a Texas regiment.

died after marriage, leaving two children; (3), Edmonia.

Leila Bankhead married Judge William Pope Dabney, of Powhatan county, Va., a descendant of the Popes and Washingtons of Westmoreland county, and had seven children: (1), Robert Kelso, born 1858, married, and now living in Portland, Oregon; (2), Leila, married Marshall Taylor, of Richmond; (3), Julia Byrd; (4), Percy, married; (5), A son Champe; (6), James Madison; (7), Ruby Bailey.

The fifth child of Wm. Champe Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis, was John Whitaker, who settled in Grenada (then a part of Yalobusha) county, Miss., and married a widow Boykin (née Starke) from South Carolina. They had four children: William and Frances, who both died unmarried; Preston Calhoun and Jane Madison. Preston Calhoun Willis, born 1835, married Mary Ingraham, and had six children: (1), Lucy, married — Tyson, and has issue; (2), Robert Preston, married Jane Bell, and has issue; (3), Lilly, married James Bell, and has issue; (4), Randolph Benton; (5), John, married Eugenia Williams, and has issue (Randolph Benton, an infant); (6), Sarah, married — Williams, had issue. Jane Madison Willis married John Williams, and died leav-

ing five children: (1), William Preston, married Lucy Perry, and has children, Douglas, Mary, John, and four other sons; (2), Leila Madison, married Charles Perry, and has two sons, Elmo and ———; (3), John Willis, married Lily Williams, and has two sons; Douglas died young; (5), Amanda Byrd, married Morgan McAfee, and has no issue.

Dr. William Taliaferro Willis, sixth child of William C. Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis, went to Alabama with his brother John, and there married a widow Alston (née Starke), a sister of John's wife. He settled in Grenada county, Miss., near Graysport, and left three children: Amanda Byrd, Randolph Benton, and John Whitaker. Amanda Byrd Willis, born 1834, married Robert Henry Galladay, a prominent lawyer of Coffeeville, Miss., and had issue: (1), Willis, born 1857, married Motier Bibby, and has three children, Roberta, Wilfred, and ———; (2), Lerenn, born 1858, and died 1890; (3), Fanny, born 1862, unmarried. Gen. Randolph Benton Willis, of "Willis Grove," Grenada county, Miss., born 1836, educated at Murfreesboro, Tenn., entered the Confederate army in 1861 as member of Mobile Cadets in Third Alabama Regiment, and served mostly around Norfolk, Va., until its evacuation in 1862;

later was transferred to a Mississippi regiment and was in active service till July, 1863, when he was severely wounded and left for dead on the field of Gettysburg, Penn., was carried a prisoner to Baltimore and afterwards exchanged*; married in 1870 his cousin Rosalie, Carter Willis, of "Willis Hall," Orange county, Va., who had nursed him when recovering from his wounds. Their children are: (1), William Starke, born in 1872, educated at Anniston, Ala., and in the Arkansas State University at Fayetteville, married in 1895 Maude Mays; (2), Lewis, born 1874, educated with his brother above, married in 1894 Florence Ingraham, and has a daughter Rosalie Carter; (3), Randolph Benton, born 1887. John Whitaker Willis, born about 1840, died —, married — Hardwick, who died without issue; married in 1865 Rebecca —, and had one child, William.

Mary Champe Willis, seventh child of William Champe Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis, married Mann Page, a lawyer of Orange Courthouse, Va., and had two sons: William, born about 1837, and John, born about 1840; John was killed by a falling building in New Orleans,

* Randolph Benton Willis after the war was made a brigadier-general of Mississippi State troops.

William Page lived in Memphis where he married and had issue.

Robert Willis, eighth child of William C. Willis and Lucy (Taliaferro) Willis, was born about 1810, married, first, his cousin, Lucy Taliaferro, sister of Dr. William Taliaferro, of Fauquier county, Va., and had a son, Champe, who died unmarried and was buried at "Willis Grove." Robert Willis owned the Holladay mill and residence near Rapidan Station. His second wife was Fanny Lee, of Fauquier county, Va., a descendant of Hancock Lee, and their children were: (1), Robert, born 1841, a brave soldier in the war between the States, who lived in Fredericksburg and died unmarried, is buried at "Willis Grove," Orange county, Va.; (2), Jane E., died about 1887 unmarried, buried at "Willis Grove"; (3), Hancock Lee, born 1846, served through the war, first, in Company A., Thirteenth Virginia Regiment, and later in the famous Black-horse cavalry, of Fauquier county, Va.; married, first, Nelly Bull, of Orange Courthouse, who had no children; and second, Lilly Eckloff, who had four children: Robert Lee (born 1887), Mand, Fanny, and ———; (4), George Lewis Willis, now living in New Mexico unmarried.

Having completed the descendants of Col.

Lewis Willis, of Fredericksburg, by his first wife, we shall continue the account of him in connection with his second and third marriage.

Colonel Lewis Willis.

After the death of his first wife, Mary Champe, Col. Lewis Willis married the widow of his brother-in-law, John Champe, her maiden name was Ann Carter, of "Cleve," daughter of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," and also sister to his son-in-law, Landon Carter, who married his daughter, Mildred; this lady had been for twelve years the wife of Mr. Champe, but had borne him no children, yet in a few years after her marriage with Lewis Willis she was the mother of three; the eldest died aged three years, his name was Charles Lewis. Col. Byrd Willis says, that upon the death of this child his name was added to his, which was to have been simply Byrd, it became Byrd Charles Lewis Willis, and as he grew up he got tired of so much name and dropped the Lewis, for which his father never forgave him. The other child died an infant.

In the *Virginia Gazette* of September 23, 1775, the following lines were published, and apply to Mrs. M. C., a daughter of Mr. L. W.:

" My husband's my uncle
My father's my brother,
I also am sister unto my own mother,

I am sister and aunt to a brother called John,
To whom wit and good nature combined doth belong.
This paradox strange as it may be to you
Any day that you please I can prove to be true.

"N. B.--The marriage is lawful."

The above lines were written by a young lady of Fredericksburg, Miss. (L. D.), upon the marriage of Col. Lewis Willis with Ann Carter (widow Champe). Mrs. M. C. referred to was Mildred Carter, daughter of Col. Lewis Willis by his first wife, Mary Champe, and wife of Landon Carter, who was the brother of Ann Carter (widow Champe), the second wife of Col. Lewis Willis.

Who L. D. was we know not, but surmise she was a bright, intelligent girl, and something of a genealogist. Jno. referred to was Maj. Jno. W. Willis.

Col. Byrd Willis tells us that his mother was not a little proud of her descent from the Byrds of "Westover," and determined to commemorate it by giving him the name. She was the daughter of Charles Carter of "Cleve," the son Robert, commonly called "King" Carter from his unusual wealth.

At an advanced age, Col. Lewis Willis married, in 1811, his third wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Bromfield. She was the friend of his second wife, and resided in Fredericksburg some

twenty years before; in the interim she had gone to England where she lived till the death of her husband, 1809. She died April 5, 1816, aged fifty-six, and is buried in the old Willis graveyard at "Willis' Hill," Fredericksburg, Va. She left her daughter by Mr. Bromfield to the care of Col. Byrd Willis, and she married Mr. Ross, of "Blenheim," Albemarle county, Va. Col. Byrd Willis says: "My mother was a good, sensible woman, capital at arithmetic. At this point the old man was always at fault; the consequence was my mother was the business one of the family. This gave rise to frequent bickerings, as the old man was not easy under this inferiority, and would swear at times that he would manage his own matters. My mother would, with the appearance of great submission, surrender the books, knowing that in less than twenty-four hours she would resume control of them with increased consequence.

"I myself was another source of these little family feuds. My half-brothers (particularly Jack) were very wild, and when at any time I would misbehave, the following dialogue would take place: My father, 'Well, Madam, what do you say to your pretty boy, now? You are always throwing my first children in my teeth; by all that's good, this fellow is worse than John.' To which no reply was made save the

clearing of the throat and twist of the mouth." Col. Byrd says in his manuscript that, "among the peculiarities of our family may be noted the conspicuous aversion to court and court-houses; there never was but one justice of the peace in our family that I ever heard of, and that was Lewis, son of my brother William, who died in Alabama. We dislike national festivities, toasts and sentiments, especially the indecent practice of toasting a man to his face and the necessary consequence, a long speech. This practice was introduced a few years since from sheep-shearing in England."

Col. Byrd C. Willis.

A FLORIDA COLONEL.

Col. Byrd C. Willis, or "Maj. Byrd," as he was more frequently called, was the eighth child of Col. Lewis Willis, but only child by his second wife (Ann Carter), who survived infancy, was born in 1781 at "Willis Hill," near Fredericksburg, Va.

Col. Byrd Willis, in speaking of what he terms his "own accomplishments," says: "I could tell a good Irish story, played Dennis in *John Bull*, in a Thespian corps, with great applause; sing a pretty good comic song, remarkably fond of pleasure, and as remarkably averse to everything like business, possessed as little

knowledge of accounts as my father before me. Having had some agency in promoting the election of General Jackson to the presidential chair, he, upon the death of Charles P. Tutt, appointed me Navy Agent at this port (Pensacola) in October, 1832. An anti-Jackson paper published in Lynchburg, Va., remarked upon that occasion that the first of his friends was the last rewarded.* Be that as it may, the situation suits me, as my servants are hired as laborers at the navy yard. I have spent two winters at this place (Pensacola) before, and was delighted with the climate; indeed, my ex-

* Col. Byrd Willis was a warm personal and political friend of General Jackson, and was a strong supporter of his for the presidency, which aroused much feeling on the part of some of his (Colonel Willis') former political and personal friends and associates, one of whom attempted to interrupt and ridicule a Jackson or Democratic meeting in Fredericksburg, of which Colonel Willis was chairman, whereupon he ordered his friend to leave the meeting, or he would have him put out. In recognition of his services and his zeal in the cause of Democracy, Jackson offered Col. Byrd Willis a United States Judgeship, which he positively refused, because, though he had read law, he had never practiced, and he was too modest and conscientious to accept a position which he feared he could not properly fill. (See *Index Appeal*, Monday, March 18, 1889.) Those who remember Colonel Willis say he was much given to underrating his abilities, and one who judges him from his own account of himself, would form a very incorrect idea of his attainments.—EDITOR.

cellent wife enjoys better health here than at any place we have ever lived; she is above the medium stature, graceful, and well made, with a beautiful foot; receives her company, and enters a room in fine style; an affectionate mother and wife, and kind mistress; in short, a Virginia lady, with but few gray hairs; when fifty years of age walks as nimbly as a young girl. As the only child of my mother, who had long despaired of such a blessing, I was much petted, indeed, the poor lady did not know when to stop, for she persisted in treating me as a child when I began to think of myself as a man, and, I fear, in repelling those infantile caresses, I was not always mindful of the respect due her. I had no cause to tax my father with being overproud of me; indeed, it was his disposition to conceal rather than display his partiality, if he ever indulged in such feeling, and I had never any reason to believe I was ever its object. From having to launch out much money for the education of my eldest half-brothers, to little purpose, my father was slow to spend much upon his other sons; so that the cheapness, not the excellence of the school, was its best recommendation. As he advanced in age he had great faith in the rod—never failed to recommend it on all occasions. It was usual when he entered us at school to say to the

master, 'that he was a most unfortunate man, none of his children loved their books, that they were a stiff-necked, perverse generation; that nothing but flogging would do.'

"The master in those days generally took him at his word, and we suffered accordingly. The consequence was we hated school from the bottom of our hearts. At the early age of nineteen I married Mary Willis Lewis, the daughter of Major George Lewis, of 'Marmion.' He was the nephew of General Washington, and belonged to his suite in the war of the Revolution. My wife's mother was named Catherine, daughter of Mrs. Mary Daingerfield, of 'Coventry,' whom I have had occasion to mention before, so she was related to me by father and mother. This match was arranged when we were children, and I believe the first wish of my mother's heart was gratified when it took place. She lived to name our two first children, Lewis and Catherine, and died November, 1804."

Colonel Byrd says: "After our marriage we lived a short while near Orange Courthouse. We then came to 'Willis Hill,' near Fredericksburg, Va. I was an idle fellow, fond of fox hunting, racing, and convivial parties; paid no attention to plantation business, and but for the profits of my race course, and the sale of fine wood, would have run the girths long be-

fore I did. In 1835, finding things were getting worse and worse, I sold off, paid off, and came off, to this territory, Florida.* But I anticipate. My wife had no sister and only two brothers, Samuel and Daingerfield. They have large families. The first married Miss Attoway Miller of Port Royal, and upon her death a Miss Maria Boyles, of Kentucky, to which State he had gone after the British burnt his home and carried off his negroes in the war of 1812.

"Daingerfield married Miss Lucy Pratt, of King George county, Va., and resides at 'Mar-mion,' same county. I was married in November, 1800. In September following our son Lewis was born. He was bred a physician, and having graduated, came to Florida with us in 1825, and commenced the practice of medicine at Tallahassee. He married Lucie Hackley, daughter to Richard S. Hackley by his second wife, who was Miss Harriet Randolph, of 'Tuck-

* Captain A. Murat Willis says: "Our family were always a little "horsey" which was not diminished by the Carter cross. My grandfather (Lewis Willis), worked his farms principally with blooded mares, and my grandmother (Anne (Carter) Willis) sold for a £1,000 the first pair of coach-horses that ever brought so much in Virginia at that time. The dams of "Maid of the Oaks," and "Betsey Blue," were clew horses. My father sold "Maid of the Oaks" for \$15,000 to pay security debts, a very high price at that time."

aloe,' Va., whilst on a visit to us at this place, Pensacola, when we lived here before. Poor Lucie died leaving one child, named Byrd, after me. In three or four years after her death he married Harriet Randolph, cousin to his first wife, and daughter of Thomas Eaton Randolph, Esq., who had also emigrated to Florida from Virginia. She lived a short time. He is now a second time a widower. His last wife was one of the most intelligent women I ever knew, and unlike learned ladies in general, very unwilling to make a display of hers. He married, on June 30th, Miss Hester Savage; this was Dr. Lewis Willis' third wife at thirty-two years of age. Miss Savage was from the eastern shore of Maryland. They were married in Tallahassee. In May, 1835, Dr. Willis removed to Pensacola, and was drowned while attempting to cross the Big Lagoon on horseback, October 3, 1835. He left a widow and two children; Byrd, by his first wife, and Thomas Hayward, by his last wife.

In the old "Willis Graveyard," Pensacola, Fla., is a tombstone that bears the following inscription:

DOCTOR LEWIS WILLIS,
DIED OCTOBER 3, 1835, AGE 35 YEARS.

Byrd Willis, son of Dr. Lewis Willis, married, about 1847, Miss Lucy Barclay, of Pensa-

cola, Fla., who died, leaving three children: George, Lewis and Byrd. George is married and engaged in the lumber business in Alabama. Lewis is a merchant in Pensacola, Fla., is married and has children. His father and younger brother emigrated to Mexico a few years ago and joined Dr. Thomas Hayward Willis, who had gone there soon after the war between the States. Dr. Thos. H. Willis was a surgeon in the Confederate Army. While looking on at a street fight in Mexico he lost his life by an accidental shot. He had never married so far as is known.

Mrs. CATHERINE D. MURAT, the second child of Col. Byrd Willis, was born in 1803, and at the early age of thirteen years married Atcherson Gray, son of John Gray, of "Traveller's Rest." Atcherson Gray died in less than twelve months after his marriage, and his child born after his death died also. The young widow went, with her father and mother, to Florida, and soon after her arrival there married Achille Murat, ex-prince of Naples,*

* Col. Byrd Willis would not consent to the marriage of his daughter with Achille Murat without the consent of the Murat and Bonaparte families, who were at first opposed to the marriage of one of their family to an American widow, but when they were apprised of the fact that

nephew to Napoleon Bonaparte, and settled about sixteen miles from Tallahassee.

Col. Byrd Willis says: "After the Revolution in Paris, 1830, and the election of Louis Philippe, Murat, having large claims upon France in right of his father, Joachim Murat, went over to London with a view to prosecuting these claims, believing the change of government would be propitious. He found Louis Philippe more hostile to the Bonaparte family than his predecessor, Charles X., had been. He took with him his wife. She saw a great deal of high life in London, was introduced by Lady Dudley Stuart, a daughter of Lucien Bonaparte, as the niece of Washington; this relationship was considered highly creditable to her there, so, as she says, she was not indebted for the notice she attracted to her husband alone. She returned (under the protection of Mrs. Pringle, of South Carolina, a good American. I have good testimony that whilst in London she stood up for her country and fought its battles in all companies. The testimony alluded to is Messrs McLane, our minis-

the prospective bride was the grand-niece of Gen. Washington, all opposition vanished. Col. Byrd Willis' wife and several of his children spent several weeks with Joseph Bonaparte, ex-King of Spain, at his magnificent villa near Bordentown, New Jersey.

ter at St. James, Washington Irving, and John Randolph, of Roanoke. With all these she was a great favorite. Her husband, if matters are adjusted between Belgium and Holland, will come over in May next. In the meantime she is preparing 'Sepona,' the name of his seat in this country, for his reception. She was at the coronation of William IV., King of England. A seat in Westminster Abbey was obtained for her by no less a personage than the Duke of Sussex, the King's brother. These attentions might have turned the head of some young women, but I am proud to say my daughter returned to America with increased affection for its institutions and a contempt for the heartless society of London's fashionable life."

Col. Murat reached New York on his return to Florida on July 22, 1833.

In gratitude for her kindness to him when in exile, and in recognition of her husband's claims, Napoleon III., when Emperor of France, placed the Princess Murat at the head of the French nobility and honored her with a seat on his right.

On one occasion while visiting an art gallery in London, in company with John Randolph and other distinguished personages, the party paused before the pictures of Napoleon and

Washington which hung side by side. Randolph, pointing to the pictures, remarked, "Before us we have Napoleon and Washington, one the founder of a mighty empire, the other of a great republic"; then, turning to the company, said, "Behold, in the Princess Murat the niece of both, a distinction which she alone can claim."

After the war between the States, Louis Napoleon settled an annuity of 50,000 francs upon the Princess Murat, which was regularly paid up to the time of her death. After her death the annuity was paid to her sister, Mrs. Brockenborough, until the overthrow of the empire and dethronement of Louis Napoleon. Prince Murat, while a very learned man, was also a very eccentric one, and although possessed of a large landed estate and many slaves he was a poor manager and very improvident, indeed, but for the good advice of his wife which she sometimes prevailed upon him to follow, Prince Murat would have bankrupted himself. At one time after his marriage he resided in New Orleans and practiced law; for a time he and his wife resided in London; at another time Belgium, where King Leopold gave him command of the "Foreign Legion," but the soldiers of his uncle, the first Napoleon (whom he is said to have greatly resembled), commenced

flocking to his standard in such numbers, that Louis Philippe, the then King of France, became alarmed and requested (which amounted to a command) that the King of Belgium disband his "Foreign Legion," which Leopold reluctantly did. It has been said that in bidding farewell to his troops Prince Murat addressed them in seven different languages.

Many anecdotes have been told of Prince Murat, some of which are quite ludicrous. His peculiarities and eccentricities frequently tested the sweetness and amiability of his wife's character, by whom he was greatly beloved. Murat and his wife spent much of their time in Europe, where they at times entertained the first cousin of Murat, Louis Napoleon, then not so well off as Murat, and while he never lived to see it, nobly did Napoleon III. and his charming empress requite this hospitality.* The Princess Murat was always cordially invited and received at the Tuileries; on one occasion a court dinner was given in her honor, and the empress, with the most delicate and incomparable courtesy, under cover of being indisposed, abstained from the table in order that the Princess Murat might fill that seat of honor which had Eugenie been present, etiquette would have compelled

* Prince Murat left no child.

her to occupy. As soon, however, as the formal repast was ended, the empress sent for Princess Murat to come to her private apartments, and welcomed her as a sister. At her death were found in her possession many valuable relics of the first empire, which had been presented to her as gifts by Napoleon III., most of which are now in the possession of her brother, Achille Murat Willis. Amongst other marks of personal esteem by which the emperor showed his full appreciation of the relationship, and his desire to publicly establish it, was the bestowal upon her the right of using the royal livery of France.

In a little quiet graveyard near Tallahassee are to be found two simple marble shafts which bear the following inscriptions:

DEPARTED THIS LIFE, APRIL 18TH, 1847,

CHARLES LOUIS NAPOLEON ACHILLE MURAT,

SON OF THE KING OF NAPLES

AND

CAROLINE BONAPARTE MURAT,

AGED 47.

This monument is dedicated by his Wife,
Catherine, in perpetual memory of her love.

The companion shaft reads :

SACRED TO THE MEMORY

OF

PRINCESS C. D. MURAT,

WIDOW OF COL. CHARLES LOUIS NAPOLEON ACHILLE MURAT,

AND

DAUGHTER OF THE LATE COL. BYRD C. WILLIS,

OF VIRGINIA,

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE ON THE 6TH OF AUGUST, 1867,

IN THE 64TH YEAR OF HER AGE.

A kind and affectionate wife and sister,

A sincere and devoted friend.

MRS. A. C. BOTTS. The third child of Col. Byrd Willis was Ann Carter, born February, 1805. She was named for her grandmother. October 21, 1882, when seventeen years of age, married Thomas Botts, of Fredericksburg, an attorney at law. Col. Byrd Willis says: "When we came to this country (Florida), we left them in Fredericksburg; on our return upon a visit to Virginia, reached that place in time to receive her latest breath. She died April, 1827; left one child, Lawson, born July 25, 1825."

Mr. Botts, or Gen. Botts, as he was called, on October 11, 1828, married, as second wife,

Miss Mary Stone, by whom he had several children. Lawson Botts, the child by Ann Willis, was a lawyer of no little prominence. He was assigned by the court as counsel for the prisoners in the John Brown trial. At the beginning of the war between the States, Lawson Botts entered the Confederate service, rose to the rank of Colonel of a Virginia regiment, and was killed while gallantly leading his regiment into action at the second battle of Manassas, 1862. He left a wife and several children.

Lawson Botts was married to Sarah Elizabeth Bibb Ranson on January 29, 1851. In his Bible the following dates were entered by him: Lawson Botts, born January 25, 1825; S. E. B. Botts, born August 21, 1829; Fanny Botts, born July 19, 1853, died infant; Thomas Hutchinson Botts, born September 5, 1854; James Ranson Botts, born March 12, 1857, deceased; Lawson Botts, born July 13, 1859, deceased; Robert Botts, born August 6, 1861.

Lawson Botts was Lieut.-Colonel of 2nd Virginia Regiment, and was frequently mentioned for his gallantry in the official reports of his commanding officers. Was killed August 28, 1862, at Manassas; was in command of his regiment, and carried into the fight about 140

muskets; loss, 15 killed, wounded, 43; total, 58. (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. XII., p. 661.)

JOHN W. WILLIS, the fourth child of Col. Byrd Willis, was born April 26, 1807. Col. Byrd Willis says: "He was named after my brother, Jack. After serving six years in the United States Navy, resigned; a tolerable sample of the family, being pretty stout, pretty strong, and pretty wild. He is now down at Charlotte Harbor with his brother George, who is deputy collector and inspector of that place." John's first trip to sea was on the United States frigate, *Brandywine*, when she took out Gen. Lafayette, who had been on a visit to the United States in 1825. He succeeded his brother George as inspector at Charlotte Harbor, who resigned upon getting married. John died of bilious fever July 10, 1833, aged twenty-six years, two months and thirteen days.

GEORGE WILLIS: The fifth child of Col. Byrd C. Willis was George, named after his grandfather, George Lewis, of "Marmion." He was born June 5, 1809; was educated at West Point Military Academy; went to Florida and became a surveyor of public lands, was then appointed deputy collector and inspector of Charlotte Harbor. On the 20th of February,

1833, he married Miss Martha P. W. Fauntleroy, of Middlesex county, Va. She came to Florida two years previous to her marriage with her brother* and sister. Mrs. Willis died six years after her marriage, leaving three children, Mary Lewis, George and Isabella. Upon a tombstone in the "Willis Graveyard," Pensacola, Fla., is the following inscription:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY
OF
MRS. MARTHA P. WILLIS,
WIFE OF GEORGE WILLIS, ESQ.,
DEPARTED THIS LIFE SEPTEMBER 9, 1839.

Upon another, the following :

GEORGE,
ONLY SON OF
GEORGE AND MARTHA WILLIS,
DIED OCTOBER 11, 1840, IN THE 4th YEAR OF HIS AGE.

MARY LEWIS, the first child of George Willis and Martha (Fauntleroy) Willis, was born May 3, 1835, in Pensacola, Fla.; married, October

* In the old Willis graveyard at Pensacola, Fla., is a tombstone which bears the following inscription: Sacred to the memory of George L. Fauntleroy, native of Virginia. Died at Pensacola, November 5, 1839, twenty-six years of age.

5, 1853, at "Wood-Park," Orange county, Va., John Armistead Browning, of Rappahannock county, Va., and had nine children:* (1), Martha Isabella Fauntleroy, born June 28, 1854, married Daingerfield Lewis (son of Henry Byrd Lewis, of "Cleve") November 10, 1880, died October 23, 1888; left one child, Armistead Lewis, born August 4, 1881. (2), Charles Henry Browning, born November 14, 1855; died August 8, 1882. (3), Mary Landon, born April 15, 1858; died June 24, 1865. (4), Elizabeth Learimer, born October 9, 1859; married Wm. Grimsley Wood, January 30, 1895. (5), Fanny Lewis, born June 30, 1861. (6), Anna Tomlin, born September 20, 1863; died October 30, 1869. (7), John Armistead, born May 24, 1865. (8), George Landon, born April 3, 1867. (9), Willis, born March 17, 1869.

The second child of George Willis and Martha (Fauntleroy) Willis was GEORGE FAUNTLEROY WILLIS, who was born on the morning of December 24, 1836, at 6 o'clock, in Pensacola, and died October 11, 1840.

ISABELLE, third child of George Willis, born December 7, 1838, married Alexander Francis Hayward, of Tallahassee, June 4, 1859. She

* Mary Lewis (Willis) Browning died March 20, 1869.

died March 29, 1869, and left a son Thomas Fauntleroy Hayward, born March 17, 1862, married September 13, 1894, Miss Lucie Chapin, of Front Royal, Va. He is now (1897) clerk of Rappahannock county court. Has one child, Francis T., born October 13, 1895.

In 1841, October 14, George Willis married his second wife, Sallie Innes Smith,* of Fredericksburg, Va. She was born at Dumfries, Va., August 19, 1820, and was a daughter of Delia Forbes and William Smith; of this marriage there was born to George Willis and Sallie Innes Willis, nine children (three sons and six

*Consuelo, Dutchess of Marlborough, is a great-niece of Mrs. Willis, who was a sister of her grandfather, Murray Forbes Smith. Mrs. Willis was the daughter of Delia Forbes and was directly descended from Lady Margaret Stirling and Dr. Forbes, who came to this country about the time of the Revolution. The present head of the house of Stirling is Sir Charles Stirling, of "Glorat," in Herbertshire. This Margaret Stirling was also the niece of Lord Erskine and Lady Alva his wife. "Margaret Stirling was the only child of George Stirling (son of John Stirling), died at Herbertshire, 1760, and was the *last laird of Herbertshire*. She married Dr. David Forbes, in Edinburgh, April 1, 1774, and emigrated to America and settled at Dumfries, Prince William county, Va. George Stirling was succeeded by his sister, Jean Stirling, of Archyle, who married, first, her first cousin Sir James Stirling, baronet of Glorat, and second, James Erskine, whose title was Lord Alva." (*Charles E. F. Stirling.*)

daughters). The first child was Delia S., born in Pensacola, Fla., May 5, 1847, she married in 1863 George E. Tayloe, son of George P. Tayloe, of Roanoke, Va. George E. Tayloe was a gallant soldier during the late war between the States; at the beginning of hostilities he was living in Alabama (a planter), he raised a company of which he was captain, was assigned to the Eleventh Alabama Regiment, soon rose to the rank of colonel, fought through the entire war, was severely wounded in the seven days fight around Richmond, commanded Sorrel's Georgia Brigade for sometime before the end, and surrendered 1,033 men at Appomattox,* which goes far to prove his soldierly qualities in keeping in hand so many of his men in those last terrible days of hunger, starvation, and death. Col. Tayloe received Gen. Grant's flag of truce at Appomattox Courthouse.† Of Lee's band of heroes there was none more knightly than George E. Tayloe.‡ Delia S. and George

*See *Rebellion Records*.

†See Lee's *Life of Lee*, p. 390.

‡Herman H. Perry, assistant adjutant-general of Sorrel's Georgia Brigade, writing under date of July 2, 1893, and speaking of Col. Tayloe, says: "My duties as a staff-officer threw me intimately day and night in all service with the brigade commander, and as a soldier, a true Southern gentleman and devoted son of the South he had no superior, he was totally unselfish and honorable, and as brave as a

E. Tayloe had issue : George Willis, born 1865, Mary Langhorne, William Randolph, Innes Stirling, Edward Ingle, Catharine Murat, Rosa Fielding, and Lomax Plater, born 1878.

The second child of George Willis and Sallie Innes Willis, was Catharine Murat, born in Pensacola, Fla., May 27, 1845, and named after her aunt the Princess Murat, who at her death left as a legacy to her namesake a magnificent diamond brooch, a gift from the Emperor Napoleon to the Princess Murat.

Bayard. I have seldom known of anyone of equal unflinching courage without brute recklessness, and who had more self-possessed coolness under the most trying moments. For this I at once conceived for him the greatest admiration, and the soldiers were quick to find him out and more willing to trust to his courage and stand by him to the last. But in all this the quiet gentleman, the unflinching brave soldier Tayloe was there sharing everything with privates in the ranks and never once leaving his place of duty a moment. I learned to love his earnest bravery and magnificent fortitude, unquestionably he was heroic in his devotion. We had a few thousand of these heroes left who went to Appomattox Courthouse, where the curtain fell on a splendid tragedy; but among them all not one deserves more admiration than Col. Tayloe." (*Signed, Herman H. Perry.*)

Col. Tayloe's commission as brigadier-general never reached him, he had been recommended by Gen. Lee for the position and had been placed in command of the brigade, but the end came before he received the commission.—EDITOR.

Catharine Murat Willis married in 1871 John G. Williams,* a prominent lawyer of Orange, Va., and son of Lewis B. Williams. Issue: Sallie Innes, Lewis Catlett, (born 1875)†; Kate Burrell, Mary Page, John Green, born 1883.

The third child of George Willis and Sallie Innes Willis was Byrd Charles Willis, born in Pensacola, Fla., April 5, 1847. Byrd C. Willis resigned his appointment at the Virginia Military Institute at the age of sixteen and entered the Confederate army, served as a member of the Caroline company in the Ninth Virginia Cavalry to the end of the war, and was severely wounded at Spottsylvania Courthouse, May 14, 1864. After the war in the fall of 1865 he went South and settled in Greene county, Ala., and engaged in cotton planting; married April 30, 1876, Leila Mann, daughter of John W. Mann, of Mobile, Ala. Issue: George Willis, born February 24, 1877, at Ben Lomond, Greene

*Mr. Williams was a member of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment of Infantry during the war, but served on detached service most of the time as courier for Gen. Jubal A. Early. After the war studied law, and in 1881 was elected to the office of commonwealth's-attorney for the county of Orange (which he still holds) to succeed his father who held the same office for forty-seven years.

†Took the degree of Master of Arts at the University of Virginia 1897.

county, Ala., A. Murat Willis, born December 10, 1878, at Ben Lomond, Greene county, Ala., Byrd Charles Willis, born at "Wood Park," Orange county, Va., October 5, 1880.

Leila (Mann) Willis died November 30, 1880, in the twenty-third year of her age, and was buried at "Wood Park," Orange county, Va.

On the 30th of January, 1894, Byrd C. Willis married Annie G. Crenshaw, daughter of Capt. William G. Crenshaw, of Orange county, Va.

Captain Crenshaw organized, equipped, and commanded the "Crenshaw Battery" during the first two years of the war. The Confederate Government recognizing his great business qualifications sent him to England as purchasing agent for the government, in which capacity he acted until the close of the war; he returned to Virginia with his family and died at his home, "Hawfield," Orange county, Va., May 24, 1897. Captain Crenshaw received special mention for conspicuous gallantry in A. P. Hill's report of the battles of Mechanicsville, Gaines' Mill, Frazier's Farm, and Malvern Hill. Report dated February 28, 1863. (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. II., p. 839.)

The fourth child of George Willis and Sallie Innes Smith was George, born in Pensacola, Fla., in 1848. Upon a tombstone in the old

"Willis Graveyard," in Pensacola, is the following inscription:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
GEORGE,
INFANT SON OF GEORGE AND SALLIE I. WILLIS.
DIED DECEMBER 26TH, 1848.
SIX MONTHS OLD.

The fifth child of George and Sallie Innes Willis, was Sallie Innes, born 12th of November, 1849, in Fredericksburg, Va., died July 1, 1851, at "Wood Park," in the second year of her age, and was buried at "Wood Park."

The sixth child of George and Sallie Innes Willis was Virginia Ann Chase Willis, born at "Wood Park" on the 18th of April, 1853. Maj. W. H. Chase, godfather, and Mrs. Chase, godmother; married in 1885 Charles E. Cary,* a

* Mrs. Cary is perhaps the only woman living who ever declined the honor of a kiss from Gen. Robert E. Lee. During the war, in company with other little girls, she was visiting a friend, when General Lee called. The General kissed the little girls with the exception of Mrs. Cary, who held back and would not be kissed. Upon being chided by the others for her seeming rudeness, she said, amidst much embarrassment and confusion, that her mother had told her that it was not proper to kiss gentlemen. Whereupon the General came gallantly to her rescue, by saying, she was quite right, young ladies should always obey their mamma's, and he was quite sure that hers was a most prudent and careful one.

prominent lawyer of Gloucester C. H., Va. Issue: George Edward, born 1887; Samuel Beverley, born 1889; Virginia Innes, born 1891; Eliza Lewis, born 1893.

The seventh child of George and Sallie Innes Willis, was Martha, born at "Wood Park," Orange county, Va., September 11, 1854. Godmother, Mrs. Fanny Lee. Died on the 8th day of September, 1855, wanting three days of being one year old.

The eighth child of George and Sallie Innes Willis was Fielding Lewis, born at "Wood Park," Orange county, Va., October 13, 1858. Inherited "Wood Park," and resides there, unmarried. (1897.)

The ninth and youngest child of George and Sallie Innes Willis, was Georgine, born in Pensacola, Fla., March 22, 1861. Married Joseph Davies Logan, of Salem, Roanoke county, Va., now (1897) a prominent lawyer at Union, Monroe county, W. Va. Issue: Sally, born 1887; Anna Clayton, born 1888; Maud Matthews, born 1890; John Lee, born 1892.

George Willis died in Pensacola, Fla., April 10, 1861. His remains were brought to Virginia, and he is buried at "Wood Park," Orange

county, Va., beside his wife Sallie Innes Willis, who died November, 1881. He was a gentleman of considerable fortune, handsome appearance, and an easy, graceful carriage that rarely failed to excite remark. In the winter of 1860, shortly after the John Brown raid, when all Virginia was in a state of excitement, and military companies were forming and arming for the inevitable conflict, George Willis was waited upon by a committee of young men, who stated that they had been appointed to wait upon him and tender him the captaincy of their company, the "Richmond Light Infantry Blues"; that, while he was not personally known to any member of their organization, they had been so struck by his appearance and military bearing on the streets of Richmond, that they had made inquiry concerning him, all of which had been so satisfactory that they determined to offer him the command of their organization, feeling confident that in him they would find such a leader as they desired. Colonel Willis, while he greatly appreciated the compliment, declined to accept the command of the "Blues," giving as his reason that should war (which seemed inevitable) come, he would enter the cavalry branch of the service. He went south in the winter of 1860-'61 with a view of arranging his business affairs, so that

should Virginia secede from the Union, he would be prepared to offer his services. He was stricken down in the month of February with a long and lingering attack of fever, which terminated fatally in April, 1861.

The sixth child of Col. Byrd Willis was a daughter born in 1811, died an infant.

The seventh child of Col. Byrd Willis was Mary Byrd, born 13th of September, 1813. Col. Byrd says in his MS.: "It will take a clever fellow to make her leave her father's home; she has not seen him yet. I believe, at a 'banquet ball' at this place, Pensacola, Commodore A. J. Dallas was made king. He presented the bouquet to her. Heard she was queen at a party given by the Commodore at the Navy Yard."*

Mary Byrd afterwards married Commodore

* Commodore A. J. Dallas died at Callao on the night of June 3, 1844, and at the time was Commander-in-Chief of the United States naval forces in the Pacific. He was the son of the Hon. Alexander J. Dallas, Secretary of the Treasury, under the administration of Mr. Madison, and also a brother of George M. Dallas, Vice-President of the United States. Of a family which has occupied distinguished positions in the cabinet, the senate, in diplomacy, and on the bench, Commodore Dallas was no less distinguished as an ornament of the honorable profession to which his life and talents were devoted.

Dallas, about 1836. The children of this marriage were: Byrd Charles, born 1837; Mary Byrd, born 1839; Trevanion Barlow, born 1841.

Byrd C. Dallas married and left one child.

Mary Byrd Dallas married Captain Chase Strong, of Pensacola, in 1859, and had three sons, Alexander, Murat, and Conrad. Of these, Conrad married a New Jersey lady, and resides there. Mrs. Strong now resides in Washington, D. C.

Trevanion B. Dallas, now a prominent business man of Nashville, Tenn. Married in 1870 Miss Douglas. She died leaving a son, Hugh Douglas, who has recently married. T. B. Dallas afterwards married Annie Bonaer, and has several children, among them Annie Willis Dallas, whose picture has recently appeared in the June number of *Munsey's Magazine*, 1897.

The eighth child of Col. Byrd Willis was Ella Attoway, born March 23, 1816. Col. Byrd Willis says: "When not quite fifteen years of age, married in Tallahassee Samuel Duvall. We objected to this match on account of the youth of one of the parties. She had one child, Philip Lewis, and resides two miles east of Tallahassee."

She married, second, Wm. H. Brocken-

borough, formerly of the University of Virginia, afterwards a member of Congress from Florida.

The last and ninth child of Col. Byrd Willis was born 15th of October, 1727. Col. Byrd Willis says: "Eleven and a half years after the birth of our daughter, Mrs. Duvall, little 'Mu,' was born at 'Blenheim,' in Albemarle county, Va., whilst on a visit to my step-sister, Mary Ross. This was our first visit to Virginia after our removal to Florida. Born to us in our old age, we wished to name him Byrd after myself, but my daughter Murat, having no child, begged that he might be called after her husband, and we gratified her. Coming so unexpectedly to us, I fear we dote on him too much, for he is allowed by everyone to be a most beautiful child. He will be six in October next. He goes to school to Mr. Hatten."

Achille Murat Willis, at the age of twenty, married Miss Edwena Ambler in 1846, and resided in Rappahannock county, Va. The children of this marriage were: Edward Ambler, born October 2, 1848; Byrd, born August 7, 1850; Achille Murat, born September 3, 1858; May, born May 13, 1862; Lewis, born September 12, 1864.

Achille Murat Willis served as captain of the Rappahannock company of cavalry in the

Confederate service. Was a member of Ashby's regiment. Capt. A. Murat Willis acted as aide to General Early at the first battle of Manassas, and received special mention in that officers official report of the battle, August 1, 1861. (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. II., p. 558.)

Much information has been derived from the MS. of Col. Pyra Willis, and in recording the death of his wife, which occurred in 1834, we use his own language: "I have now to relate the heaviest affliction that ever befell me in the death of my beloved wife. I claim not for her exemption from the infirmities of our nature; but a better wife or mother to myself and children never fell to the lot of man. Some one has said God never sends trials but he sends strength. To this truism I subscribe, for but for his aid, I could not survive her. We lived thirty-four years (wanting one month) together, and though we could not claim the 'fitch of bacon,' we lived most happily. What Sir John McIntosh says of his wife I can say of mine: 'All that is good in my character may be attributed to her counsels and advice; she made my home agreeable to me, and though in early life I was about a good deal, there was no place like home.' She died October 7, 1834, aged fifty-two years, three months and thirteen days."

A writer in the *Pensacola Gazette* upon the subject of preventive measures in future to avoid sickness, makes the following allusion to the death of my wife: "We have lost a friend and the city one of its brightest ornaments; a lady the centre of social attraction, one whose place will not soon be filled. If her life alone could have been saved by preventive measures, then they would have been cheap at thousands of dollars."

In the "Willis Graveyard" at Pensacola, upon a plain marble slab, is the following inscription:

MARY W. WILLIS,

DIED OCTOBER 7, 1834,

CONSORT OF BYRD C. WILLIS,

AGED 52 YEARS.

We are indebted to Capt. Murat Willis, son of Col. Byrd Willis, for the following information. Capt. Willis says: "My father was adjutant of Col. Lewis' regiment in the war of 1812, and was stationed most of the time on the Canadian frontier in Vermont. The command did little or no fighting, never meeting the enemy except on one occasion in Maryland when the British attempted to land some troops under the fire of their gunboats, which was

abortive. This, however, furnished two little incidents worth relating. While Capt. Hamilton's company was drawn up, subjected to the fire of the gunboats, one of his men became very thirsty, and insisted upon being permitted to drink from a swamp near by. The captain reluctantly at last, gave him permission. The man hurried to the swamp, and as he was stooping to drink, a solid shot struck a few feet in front of him, throwing mud and water over him. He returned at once to the ranks, when the captain, who had had his eye on him all the while, asked, 'Did you get enough water?' 'Yes, thank you; all I wanted,' was the reply. The other was that of Jim Wilkins, a free colored barber of Fredericksburg, who had volunteered to go as servant to some of the officers (the same Jim Wilkins who was usher at the "White House" during Mr. Tyler's administration). Jim was given charge of the horses of several officers, and for safety took a position behind a rail fence, riding one horse and leading several others. He had not long to wait before a solid shot struck a panel of fence near by, sending pieces of rail flying about Jim's ears, upon which he dropped the reins of the led horses, put spurs to his horse, and never stopped until he reached Fredericksburg. When asked why he deserted, said he went in

the army as a servant and did not want promotion, and when the British insisted on taking him for a general he resigned."

Col. Byrd C. Willis died in Fredericksburg, Va., October 1, 1846,* and is buried in the old "Willis Graveyard" at "Willis Hill" overlooking the town. A plain marble slab marks his last resting-place. There is also to be found in this old graveyard the tomb of Charles Carter, of "Ludlow," who died in 1796, and that of his wife, Elizabeth Chiswell. He was a son of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," and brother of Ann Carter (widow Champe), wife of Col. Lewis Willis. This graveyard was storm-swept by shot and shell during the assault of the Federals upon "Marye's Heights" (which is a part of "Willis Hill"), and the tombstones and walls bear the marks of the terrible con-

* In the *National Intelligencer*, under date of October 13, 1846, will be found the following notice of death: "On Thursday evening, the 1st instant, Col. Byrd C. Willis, of this town, died, aged 65 years. During the war he served in the regular army with the rank of Captain of Infantry, but as his motive for entering into the service was a purely patriotic one, he did not continue in the army after the war. This was almost the only instance in which he held a public station. The rest of his life, except a residence of eleven years, from 1825 to 1836 in Florida, was spent here. Those who knew him will long remember the many instances of kindness of heart by which his whole life was marked. (*Fredericksburg Herald.*)

flict that once raged around this quiet home of the dead.

Adjoining the "Willis Graveyard" is the National Cemetery, in which over 16,000 Union soldiers are quietly sleeping, occupying in death the position they vainly sacrificed their lives to attain.

THE LEWIS FAMILY.

THE Lewises of Eastern Virginia are of Welsh origin. Their ancestor, Gen. Robert Lewis (whose name is favorably mentioned in English history), of Beacon, Wales, came to Gloucester county, Va., in the year 1650 with a grant from the crown of 33,333 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres of land, and there lived and died. His son, Robert, also lived and died in Gloucester, and had three sons, Fielding, John and Charles. Col. Fielding Lewis, son of the second Robert, removed to Fredericksburg. He was twice married. His first wife was Miss Catharine Washington (aunt to General Washington); they were married in 1746. June 22, 1747, their first son, John Lewis, was born. His uncle, Mr. John Lewis and Mr. Charles Dick, godfathers, and Mrs. Mary Washington and Mrs. Lee, godmothers. He married five times; first and second, two Miss Thorntons; third, Miss Jones (daughter of the celebrated valley lawyer, Gabriel Jones); fourth, Mrs. Armistead, née Fountaine (Huguenot family);

fifth, Mrs. Mercer,* née Carter. John Lewis moved to Kentucky, and left a posterity there.

Second child of Fielding Lewis, Frances, was born November 26, 1748. Fielding Lewis and George Washington, godfathers, and Miss Hannah Washington and Mrs. Jackson, godmothers. Died without issue.

Third child of Col. Fielding Lewis was Warner, born November 27, 1749. His uncle, John Lewis, and Capt. Bayley Seaton, godfathers, and Mrs. Mildred Seaton, godmother. He died December 5, 1749. From the family Bible of Col. Fielding Lewis in possession of the Lewis family at "Marmion," King George county, Va., is copied the following, which is in the handwriting of Col. Lewis: "I was married to Miss Betty Washington, sister of Gen. George Washington, 7th day of May, 1750. Our first son, Fielding, was born the 14th day of February, 1751. His uncle, George Washington, and Mr. Robert Jackson, godfathers,

*Mrs. Mercer was Mildred Carter, widow of Robert Mercer, a son of the Princeton hero; she was a daughter of Landon Carter, her mother being a daughter of Col. Lewis Willis. It is a noteworthy circumstance that the two first wives of John Lewis were granddaughters of his great aunt, Mildred Washington, by her first husband, Roger Gregory, and his fifth and last wife, her great-granddaughter by her second husband, Col. Henry Willis. (Thos. M. Green.)

and his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Washington, and Mrs. Frances Thornton, godmothers. Our second son, Augustine, born 22nd January, 1752. His uncles, Charles Lewis and Charles Washington, godfathers, and his aunt, Lucy Lewis, and Mrs. Mary Taliaferro, god-mothers. Died when four years old.

"Our third, a son Warner, born 24th June, 1755. His uncle, Charles Washington, and Col. John Thornton, godfathers, and Mrs. Mildred Thornton and Mrs. Mary Willis, godmothers. He died at eight months old.

"Our fourth, a son George,* born 14th March, 1757. Mr. Charles Yates and Mr. Lewis Willis, godfathers; Mrs. Mary Dick and his mother, Betty Lewis, godmothers. He married Miss Catharine Daingerfield, of "Coventry," Spottsylvania county, Va.

"Our fifth, a daughter named Mary, born 22nd April, 1759. Mr. Samuel Washington and Mr. Lawrence Washington, godfathers, and Mrs. Washington and Miss Mary Thornton, godmothers. Died 25th of December following.

"Our sixth, a son Charles, born 3rd October, 1760. General George Washington and Mr. Rogers Dickson, godfathers; Mrs. Mary

* George Lewis, Captain 3rd Continental Dragoons, January 1, 1777. (*Historical Register*, Heitman.)

Washington and Mrs. Lucy Dickson, godmothers.

"Our seventh, a son Samuel, born 14th of May, 1763. Rev. Musgrave Dawson and Mr. Joseph Jones, godfathers; Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Jones, godmothers. Died 3rd September, 1764.

"Our eighth, a daughter Betty, born February 23, 1765. Rev. Mr. Thomas Pierce and Mr. Warner Washington, godfathers, and Mrs. Hannah Washington and Miss Frances Lewis, godmothers. She married Mr. Charles Carter, of Culpeper county, Va.

"Our ninth, a son Lawrence, born April 4, 1767. Mr. Charles Washington and Mr. Francis Thornton, godfathers, and Miss Mary Dick, godmother. (He married the beautiful Nellie Custis, Gen. Washington's adopted daughter.) He was the grandfather of the "Audley" Lewis, of Clarke county, Va. (His grandson, Edward P. C. Lewis, was, in 1886, minister to Portugal.)

"Our tenth, a son Robert, born June 25, 1769. Mr. George Thornton and Mr. Peter Marye, godfathers, and Miss Mildred Willis and Mrs. Ann Lewis, godmothers. (He married a Miss Brown.)

"Our eleventh, a son Howell, born 12th December, 1771. Mr. Joseph Jones and Mr. James

Mercer, godfathers; Miss Mary and Miss Milly Dick, godmothers. (He married the beautiful Miss Pollard, of Virginia.)"

George Lewis, son of Fielding Lewis and Betty Washington, was a Captain in Baylor's regiment and Commander of Washington's Life Guard. In his arms Gen. Mercer expired after receiving his fatal wounds at the battle of Princeton. He was promoted to the rank of Major. He died at his seat "Marmion," King George county, Va., 1821. He married, on the 15th of October, 1779, Catharine Daingerfield, daughter of William and Mary Daingerfield, of "Coventry." She was born 25th of June, 1764.

Their first child, Samuel, was born 11th of November, 1780. His godfathers were Francis Thornton and Col. Charles Washington; Mrs. Betty Lewis and Miss Hannah Chew, god-mothers.

Their second child, a daughter, Mary Willis,* born June 24, 1782. Mr. William Jackson and Mr. Thomas Colston and Mr. John Willis, god-fathers; Mrs. Mildred Jackson, Mrs. Mary Daingerfield and Miss Betty Daingerfield, god-mothers.

Their third, a son Daingerfield, born 14th July, 1785. Capt. Larkin Chew and Maj. John

* Mary Willis Lewis married her cousin, Col. Byrd C. Willis (son of Col. Lewis Willis).

Willis and Mr. William Jackson, godfathers; Miss Mary and Miss Ann Towls and Miss Elizabeth Burgess Ball, godmothers.

There were few more prominent or patriotic men during the Revolution than Col. Fielding Lewis. Ill health prevented his taking an active part as a soldier, but his great influence was used and his money freely spent in the cause of freedom and in behalf of the colonies. Col. Fielding Lewis advanced £7,000 to carry on the factory for the manufactory of arms, and was at one time so much embarrassed by the advances made the colony of Virginia, that he was unable to pay his taxes. (*Calendar State Papers*, Vol. I., p. 503.)

In October, 1757, Col. John Thornton makes charges against Col. Spottswood, County-Lieutenant for Spottsylvania, begs that he be removed, and suggests the appointment of "Col. Fielding Lewis, a gent. of fortune and character in the county, and much esteemed by the people, who I make no doubt would readily exert themselves under such a gent. in case of a sudden call to the defence of our frontier." (*Calendar State Papers*, Vol. I., p. 253.)

In July 1775, Fielding Lewis was appointed commissioner for the manufactory of arms at Fredericksburg, Va., for the use of the colony. (*Hening*, Vol. IX., p. 71.)

Fielding Lewis, George Washington, and others, were appointed by the General Assembly, held at Williamsburg in 1761, commissioners to examine and state the accounts of the militia lately ordered out into actual service, etc. (*Hening*, Vol. VIII., p. 10.)

In 1772 Fielding Lewis was appointed one of the commissioners to strike a dividing line between the counties of Stafford and King George. (*Hening*, Vol. VIII., p. 601.)

Col. Fielding Lewis was vestryman in St. George's Church, Fredericksburg, in 1753. (See *St. George's Parish*, Slaughter.)

His beautiful home, "Kenmore," in Fredericksburg (now, 1897, the home of Colonel Howard), is an object of great interest to visitors to that historic old city. It is a splendid mansion of colonial days.

Lewis Arms.

Arms: Arg., a dragon's head and neck, erased, vert. Sometimes the dragon in the crest holds also the bloody hand of the shield.

There seems to have been some question as to Col. Fielding Lewis being the grandson or the great-grandson of Gen. Robert Lewis, the immigrant, and as to his being the son of John or Robert Lewis.

Thomas M. Green says (and he is doubtless

correct): "Col. Fielding Lewis was born on the 7th of July 1725, and was baptized five days later. He was not the son of Col. John Lewis and Elizabeth Warner, but the grandson, his father's name was John and his mother's Frances."

Col. Fielding Lewis died January, 1781.

THE CARTER FAMILY.

THE first of the family settled in Upper Norfolk, near Nansemond county, Va., and was a member of the House of Burgesses in 1649. In 1654 we find him a Burgess from Lancaster county, and commander-in-chief of the forces sent against the Indians (Rappahannock). He died in 1669.

The first John Carter had three wives: first, Jane, daughter of Morgan Glyn; second, Anne, daughter of Cleve Carter; third, Sarah, daughter of Gabriel Ludlow. All of these died before him, and he is buried with them. His son, commonly called "King," was by his last wife, Sarah Ludlow. He married twice: first, Mary Judith Armistead; second, a widow, Betty Willis, daughter of Thomas Landon, of England. He had ten children by Betty Landon, and five by Judith Armistead. His son Charles married, first, a Miss Walker, then Miss Anne Byrd, sister to Mr. Byrd, of "Westover"; lastly, Miss Lucy Taliaferro. His youngest child, Lucy, married Henry Fitzhugh, of King George county, Va. John Carter died in 1699.

Ann Carter, daughter of Ann Byrd and

Charles Carter, of "Cleve," married Col. Lewis Willis. She was a granddaughter of old "King" Carter.

Ann Hill Carter, born 1773, died July, 1829. Married Gen. Henry Lee, of "Stratford," and was the mother of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Elizabeth Hill Carter, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hill) Carter, of "Corotoman," married Col. Wm. Byrd, of "Westover." She was born in 1731, and died in 1760. (*Richmond Critic*, June 18, 1888.)

Issue of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," by his second marriage with Ann Byrd: Ann, who first married John Champe, Jr., of Lamb's Creek, by whom she had no children. Second, Lewis Willis, by whom she had three children, only one of whom (Byrd C. Willis) survived infancy.

Issue of Landon Carter, of "Cleve," by his marriage with Mildred Willis (daughter of Col. Lewis Willis) by his wife, Mary Champe: first, Mildred Ann, born 1774; married, first, Robert Mercer; second, John Lewis;* second, Sarah, born 1776, died unmarried; third, Lucy L., born 1777, married Gen. Jno. Minor, of Fredericksburg.

* Among old papers to be found in the State Library, in Richmond, is one bearing the following endorsement: "Military detail connected with the presentation of the sword of the late John Lewis to his native country by Wil-

"King" Carter was born in 1663, died August 4, 1732. Left at his death 300,000 acres of land, 1,000 slaves, and £10,000 in money.* Issue of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," by his first wife, Mary Walker: (1), Charles, of "Ludlow," Stafford county, Va., Burgess for King George in 1756 to 1774, member of House of Delegates 1777 to 1784, appointed to the

Ham Tatham, July 4, 1818." (*Chief Topographical Engineer, and attached to the War Department.*)

"RICHMOND, VA., July 4, 1818.

"SIR: I have the honor to present to the Commonwealth of Virginia the sword which John Lewis, Esq., of Fredericksburg, a grandson of Fielding Lewis, and of his Lady, General Washington's sister, worn on the unfortunate evening of the 24th of August, 1814, when he lost his life, too nobly, perhaps, by charging single-handed through the main column of the enemy in Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, after a short time before he had killed Gen. Ross' horse with his pistol. It is unnecessary for me to reiterate the history of the early period of this unfortunate young man; his imprisonment, his detention, and his treatment in the British Navy is better known to his country than myself; nor will his spirited resentment surprise posterity, etc., etc.

*Col. Byrd C. Willis tells us that some wag, overlooking the many virtues and noble deeds of "King" Carter and remembering only his faults, wrote the following epitaph with chalk upon his tomb:

"Here lies Robin, but not Robin Hood;
Here lies Robin that never was good;
Here lies Robin that God has forsaken;
Here lies Robin the devil has taken."

Council in 1789, died in 1796, married Elizabeth Chiswell, daughter of Col. John Chiswell. Charles Carter, of Ludlow, and his wife, Elizabeth, are both buried in the old "Willis graveyard," at "Willis Hill," near Fredericksburg.

Mary married Charles Carter, of "Shirley"; Elizabeth married William Churchill, of "Wilton," Middlesex county, Va.; fourth child, Judith, married William Burnet Browne, of "Elsing Green," King William county.

Issue of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," by his second wife, Ann Byrd: fifth child, Ann, married, first, John Champe, Jr., of Lamb's Creek, King George county, Va.; second, Col. Lewis Willis, of Fredericksburg; sixth child died (Lucy) unmarried; seventh, John,[†] married in 1771, Philladelphia, daughter of Col. Phillip Whitehead Claiborne,[‡] (and had Ann, married John Lyon, of Richmond); eighth, Maria, married William Armistead, of "Hesse," Gloucester county, Va.; ninth, Sarah, married William Thompson, of Culpeper; tenth, Landon, of

* *Virginia Gazette* October 3, 1771. (Married.) "This evening John Carter, Esq., of King George, to Miss Philladelphia Claiborne, youngest daughter of Phillip Whitehead Claiborne, Esq., of King William."

+ *Virginia Gazette* December 5, 1771. (Deaths.) "Mr. Philip Whitehead Claiborne a few days after his being elected one of the Representatives for King William, at his house in that county."

"Cleve," member of House of Delegates from King George, died 1811, married, first, Mildred Willis, second, Elizabeth, widow of Presley Thornton, and daughter of Robert W. Carter, of "Sabine Hall"; eleventh child, Caroline, married Dr. Elisha Hall, of Fredericksburg; twelfth, Jane, married Gavin Corbin.

Issue of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," by his third wife, Lucy Taliaferro: Ann Walker married John Catlett, of Timberneck, Gloucester.—*Richmond Standard*, December 2, 1879.

The will of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," proved in King George county, in 1764, directs that his two sons, John and Landon Carter, then in England for their education, "should be taught the languages, mathematics, and philosophy, till they are well accomplished, and of proper age to be bound to some reputable attorney, who is to have them till twenty years and nine months, they, at the same time, to be entered at the Middle Temple and to attend Commons."

Carter Arms.

Argent, a chevron between three cart wheels vert. Crest, on a mount vert. A greyhound segant argent sustaining a shield of the last, charged with a cart wheel vert.

THE BYRD FAMILY.

JOHN BYRD, of London, married Grace, daughter of Thomas Stegg, of London, who lived at various times in London and Virginia, and who was a member of the House of Burgesses for Charles City county, Va., and speaker in 1642-43, and was appointed by Parliament one of the commissioners to reduce Virginia, but was lost at sea in 1651 while in an English frigate on his way to the colony.—*Strausburg Abstract*.

John and Grace (Stegg) Byrd had issue (besides other children, amongst whom were Thomas, Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary, and Grace): a son, Col. William Byrd, born 1652, died December 4, 1704. He came to Virginia about 1674 to take possession of a large estate left him by his uncle, Thomas Stegg (who died unmarried), and first settled at "Belvidere," Henrico county, Va., within the present limits of Richmond, where there is a street bearing the name of his residence and another of his family, a county of which he was long a justice and officer of militia and which he represented in

the House of Burgesses in 1679, 1680, 1682 (Henrico Records), and in the latter year was appointed member of the Council (Council Journal). He was appointed auditor-general in 1687.

In April, 1679, the Assembly granted him a tract of land beginning at the south side of James River a mile and a half below the Falls, and extending up five miles and back one mile (all of which he accompts and presumes to be his own land), on condition that he should seat on said lands fifty able armed men and other tithable not exceeding two hundred and fifty. (*Heniny*, II., p. 448.) Col. Byrd and his descendants owned all the land here described as is shown by a volume of his land titles now in the possession of the Virginia Historical Society, and he also owned large landed estates elsewhere in Virginia and North Carolina. In 1688 he purchased and moved to "Westover," Charles City county. He married Maria, daughter of Warham Horsmander, of Charles City county, and formerly of Purleigh, Essex, England, to which he returned after the Restoration, after having been a Burgess for Charles City county, 1657-'58, and elected to the council during the session. Col. William Byrd is buried at "Westover," where his tomb remains and bears the following inscription:

HIC RECONDENTUR CINERES GALICOMI
 BYRD, ARMIGERI REGII,
 HUIUS PROVINCIALI QUÆSTORIS, QUI HANC VITAM
 CUM ETERNITATE COMMUTOVIT 4^{TO} DIE
 DECEMBUS, 1704, POST QUAM VINISSET,
 52 ANNIS.

His wife's tomb is also at "Westover":

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF
 MARY BYRD,
 LATE WIFE OF WILLIAM BYRD, ESQ.,
 AND
 DAUGHTER OF WARHAM HORSMANDER, ESQ.,
 WHO DIED THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1699,
 IN THE 47TH YEAR OF HER AGE.

Col. William Byrd and Mary (Horsmander) Byrd had issue: first, William (of whom hereafter); second, a son; third, Ursula, married Robert Beverley, of "Beverley Park," King and Queen county, Va. (the historian), and died 1699; fourth, Susan, married John Brayne, merchant, of London; fifth, a daughter.

Col. William Byrd, the eldest son, lived at "Westover," and was born March 15, 1674, died August 26, 1744, was county-lieutenant of Henrico county and Charles City, 1715, a mem-

ber of House of Burgesses, 1702, appointed receiver-general and member of the Council 1705 (Council Journal), became president of that body and was sent three times to England as agent of the colony. Col. Byrd was a man of great sagacity and enterprise, and also besides collecting the largest private library in America* (3,507 volumes), made several interesting and valuable contributions to literature which have been published under the title of the *Westover Manuscripts*. He married, first, in 1704, Lucy, daughter of Col. Daniel Parke, Jr. (who was a member of the Virginia Council, distinguished at Blenheim, and was sent with the first news of the victory to England, receiving as services the office of Governor of the Leeward Islands, where he was killed in a riot). The tomb of Col. William Byrd is at "Westover," bearing his arms and the following inscription:

"Here lyeth the Hon. William Byrd, Esq. Being born to one of the amplest fortunes in this country, he was sent early to England for his education, where, under the care and instruction of Sir Robert Southwell and ever favored with his particular instruction, he made

*The library was advertised in the *Virginia Gazette* as nearly 4,000 volumes to be sold pursuant to the will of Hon. William Byrd (third of the name) consisted of 3,625 volumes.—*Virginia Gazette*, April 4, 1777.

a happy proficiency in polite and various learning, by the means of the same noble friend, he was introduced to the acquaintance of many of the first persons of the age for knowledge, wit, virtue, birth or high station, and particularly contracted a most close and bosom friendship with the learned and illustrious Charles Boyle, Earl of Orrery. He was called to the Bar in the middle temple, studied for some time in the lower countries, visited the court of France, and was chosen Fellow of the Royal Society. Thus eminently fitted for the service and ornament of his country, he was made Receiver-General of his Majesty's revenues here, was thrice appointed publick agent to the court and ministry of England, and being thirty-seven years a member, at last became President of the council of this colony. To all this was added a great elegance of taste and life, the well-bred gentleman and polite companion, the splendid economist and proudest father of a family with the constant enemy of all exorbitant power, and hearty friend to the liberties of his country. Nat. March 28, 1674. Mort. August 26, 1744, *ætat.* 70."

Issue by first marriage: (1), Eveline, born July 16, 1707; died unmarried, November 13, 1737. (Her portrait, a lovely face, is preserved.) (2), Parke, born September 6, 1709; died June

3, 1710. (3), Phillips William, born February 23, died December 9, 1712. (4), Wilhemina, born November 6, 1715; married Thomas Chamberlayne, of King William county.

Issue by second marriage: (5), Ann, born in London February 5, 1725; died September 11, 1757; married, in 1742, Charles Carter, of "Hampstead," afterwards of "Cleve." (6), Maria, born January 6, 1727; died November 29, 1744; married Landon Carter, of "Sabine Hall"; (7), Jane, born October 13, 1729; married John Page, of "North End"; (8), Col. William,* born ———, died January 1, 1777, of "Westover," was, for several years a member of the House of Burgesses from Lunenburg county, and was appointed to the council in 1754 (Journal), was commissioned a Colonel of the 2nd Virginia Regiment in 1758, and was in active service on the Western frontier during the French and Indian War. He was a liberal supporter of the turf, owning some of the most celebrated horses of that day in Virginia, and is stated to have expended much of the great estate left him by his father. He married, first,

* "Yesterday morning, died at 'Westover' at an advanced age, Mrs. Maria Byrd, mother of the Hon. William Byrd, Esq.; she was a lady endowed with many rare accomplishments, of a most amiable and benevolent disposition."—(*Virginia Gazette*, August 29, 1771.)

Elizabeth Hill, daughter of John Carter, of "Corotaman" and "Shirley," and second, Mary, daughter of Charles Willing, of Philadelphia, Pa. He had children by both wives.

In the *Virginia Gazette* of March 28, 1771 is the following marriage notice:

"James Parke Farley, Esq., to Miss Betsy Byrd, eldest daughter of the Hon. William Byrd, Esq."

The Byrds are directly descended from Edward III., King of England, who had: John Duke, of Lancaster, who had Joan, married Ralph, Earl of Westmoreland, and had: Sir Edward Lord Bergavenny, who had: Sir George, second Lord Bergavenny, who had: Sir George, third Lord Bergavenny, of Ulcombe, who had: Ursula, married Sir Worsham St. Ledger, and had: Sir Worsham St. Ledger, of Ulcombe, who had: Ursula, married Rev. Daniel Horsmander, and had: Worsham Horsmander, of Ulcombe, who had: Maria, married Col. William Byrd, of "Westover." (*Americans of Royal Descent*, Browning.)

Byrd Arms.

Argent, a cross, flory, between four martlets, gules, on a canton, azure; a crescent of the field for difference. Crest: A bird, rising, gules.

Motto: (To turn pale at no crime.)

THE WARNER FAMILY.

COL. AUGUSTINE WARNER came to Virginia about 1628, and settled finally in Gloucester county, Virginia, on the estate still known as "Warner Hall"; was Burgess for York in 1652, for Gloucester in 1658, and was member of the Council 1659-'74; died in 1674-'76; married ————.

Issue: (1), Sarah, married Lawrence Townley, and was an ancestor of General Robert E. Lee; (2), Col. Augustine Warner, of "Warner Hall," born, according to his tomb, June, 3, 1642, and according to the books of Merchant-Tailors' school, London, where he was entered in 1657 as the eldest son of Augustine Warner, Gentleman, of Virginia, October 20, 1643. He was a member of the Council and Speaker of the House of Burgesses, 1675; married Mildred, daughter of Colonel George Reide, of Gloucester; and died June 19, 1681. Issue: (1), Augustine, born June 17, 1666; died unmarried March 17, 1686-'7; (2), George, born 1677; died without issue; (3), Robert, died without issue; (4), Mildred, married, first, Lawrence Washington, of Westmoreland (and was

grandmother of General Washington); second, George Gayle, died in England 1700; buried in Saint Nicholas' Church, Whitehaven; (5), Elizabeth, married Col. John Lewis, of Gloucester county, and inherited "Warner Hall"; (6), A daughter, married Throckmorton; (7), Mary, married John Smith, of "Purton," son of Maj. John Smith and Ann Bernard. Mary Warner and John Smith, of "Purton," were the parents of Augustine Smith, of "Shorter's Hill," who married Sarah Carver. These last two were the parents of Mildred Smith, who married John Willis, son of Colonel Francis Willis⁶ and Ann Rich.

At "Warner Hall" are the tombs of Colonels Augustine Warner Nos. 1 and 2. One bears date of death 1686; the other, 1681.

Mildred (Warner) Washington was the third child of Lawrence Washington, and was born at Bridge's Creek, Va., about 1696. Her first husband was Gregory, by whom she had three daughters: Frances, born 1716; Mildred, born 1718; Elizabeth, born 1720. Frances married Col. Francis Thornton; Mildred married Col. John Thornton; Elizabeth married, first, Henry Willis, Jr.; second husband, Reuben Thornton; third, Dr. Thomas Walker; fourth, ——— Alcock, a British officer. She had children by none.

Mildred (Washington) Gregory had for her second husband Col. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, and was the mother of Ann and Col. Lewis Willis. (See Washington letter, May 2, 1792; also, *History of the Washington Family*, by Albert Welles.)

Augustine Warner, speaker of the House of Burgesses, was in 1658 enrolled a pupil of the Merchant Taylors School in London.— *William and Mary College Quarterly*, Vol. VI., No. 3, p. 173.)

THE CHAMPE FAMILY.

COL. JOHN CHAMPE, of Lamb's Creek, King George county, Va., vestryman of Brunswick Parish, 1739, died 1763. He was a man of great wealth (the church at Lamb's Creek was a gift of his to the parish), and his daughters are said to have been noted beauties. Had issue: (1), Sarah, married Col. Edward Carter, of "Blenheim"; (2), Elizabeth, married Judge William Fleming, of the Court of Appeals, of Virginia; (3), William, d. s. p.; (4), John, married Anne, a daughter of Charles Carter, of "Cleve," and died without issue. His widow (Ann Carter) afterwards married Col. Lewis Willis, and was the mother of Col. Byrd C. Willis; (5), ———, married Samuel Washington (brother of General Washington); (6), Mary, married Col. Lewis Willis, who after her death married Ann (Carter) Champe, the widow of his brother-in-law John Champe, Jr.; (7), ———, daughter married ——— Brockenborough; (8), ———, daughter, married John Taliaferro.

In the *Virginia Gazette*, January 7, 1775, appears the following notice:

“On Sunday, the 25th ult., departed this life at Lamb’s Creek, in King George county, Mr. John Champe. He was a gentleman of a most amiable and benevolent disposition, esteemed by all who knew him, and died universally regretted.”

The will of John Champe is on record in King George county, Va., proved May 4, 1775: “To be interred in the old burying ground, on the east part of the mansion house. Legatees: wife Ann, all of estate for life; sixteen negroes to be at her disposal, also those four pictures drawn by Heselius, viz.: of Col. Charles Carter and Anne his wife, and of myself and Anne my wife. To brother William (after wife’s death), all land I live on, called Lamb’s Creek, with reversion in case he dies, without issue, to nephew Henry Willis. Nephew Henry Willis, ten negroes; sister Elizabeth Fleming, five negroes; nephew John Taliaferro, all the land called the farm, with the negroes on it, and in case John Taliaferro dies without issue, the same is left to the second son of my niece Mildred, wife of Landon Carter, Esq., of Fauquier, and if he dies without issue, to my friend John Carter, Esq., of ‘Cleve.’” The above will is that of John Champe, Jr., who married Ann Carter, by whom he had no children, and who afterwards married Col. Lewis Willis.

Col. John Champe, Sr., died in 1763. He was a man of both wealth and standing in his section. He was appointed one of the commissioners to settle accounts of militia lately in actual service, 1757. (*Hening*, Vol. VII., p. 121.)

Was one of the executors of the will of John Spottswood, father of Alex. Spottswood. (*Hening*, Vol. VII., p. 327.)

Was one of the trustees of the town of Dumfries, 1761. (*Hening*, Vol. VII., p. 427.)

Also was one of the trustees appointed for the town of Falmouth, 1752. (*Hening*, Vol. VI., p. 282.)

Champe Arms.

Ar. a fesse between three muscies gu.

Crest. A staggs ppr.

In the *Virginia Gazette* of June 24, 1775, is the following notice :

"On Monday, July 3rd, will be exposed for sale at Lamb's Creek, in King George county, a large quantity of genteel plate and all kinds of elegant household furniture, belonging to the estate of Col John Champe, deceased.

"WILLIAM CHAMPE, *Executor.*"

THE DAINGERFIELD FAMILY.

THE first of the name who emigrated to Virginia were two brothers, John and William, who came to this country early, and settled on the James river. One or both intermarried with the Blands and Robinsons, and held a high social position in that section. It is not known whether they held any office or not. In 1660 John Daingerfield, a descendant of John, located in the county of Rappahannock and at "Greenfield," which remained in the family until 1821. He married in Rappahannock, and left a son, William. He became a justice and a colonel, and married a member of a Bathurst family of England, a Miss Merriweather, of Bathurst, Essex county. He left a son, William, who married Miss Fauntleroy, of "Nailor's Hole." He was also a justice, and left three sons—John, William, and Leroy. William inherited the greater part of his estate, including the family residence, and was one of the seven colonels appointed by Virginia at the commencement of the Revolution. He married Miss Willis, of Fredericksburg, and died during the Revolution, at his seat, "Coventry," Spott-

sylvania county, Va., and left a large family. (See *Old Churches and Families of Virginia*, by Bishop Meade.)

Colonel Daingerfield married Mary Willis, granddaughter of Col. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg, Va.

Daingerfield Arms.

Ga. a cinquefoil erm. within a bordure az., bezantee.

Crest: a griffin's head erased ppr.

Capt. Wm. Daingerfield was a captain in the Virginia regiment in 1762. (*Hening*, Vol. VII., p. 443.) "The following gentlemen are chosen field officers for the seven new battalions to be raised for the protection and defence of this colony: Hugh Mercer, Adam Stephen, Mordecai Beckner, William Daingerfield, Thomas Fleming, Esq., colonels."—*Virginia Gazette*, Williamsburg, January 12, 1776.

THE BURWELL FAMILY.

LEWIS BURWELL, of Gloucester, educated at Cambridge, England, and distinguished as a scholar, was a Burgess; was appointed to the council in 1743; President and acting Governor when he died in 1750. He was a son of Major Lewis Burwell, who was also a member of the council for a series of years; married Abigail Smith, the niece of Nathaniel Bacon. The wife of Colonel Nathaniel Bacon, Sr., was Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Kingswell, of "King's Mill," which name is preserved in the wharf of that name upon the original plantation, which descended to Bacon, and, he being childless, to his niece, Abigail Smith. (*Richmond Standard*, June 10, 1880.) Lewis Burwell married, in 1736, Mary, daughter of Col. Francis Willis, of Gloucester, and had issue: (1), Lewis, of Gloucester, member of the House of Burgesses and of the convention of 1775 and '76; married Judith, daughter of Mann Page;* (2), a daughter, married Peter

*In the *Virginia Gazette* of July 11, 1771, is the following marriage notice: "John Page, Jr., Esq., to Miss Betsey Burwell, only daughter of Lewis Burwell, of 'King's Mill.'"

Whiting; (3), a daughter, married Armistead Lightfoot; (4), Rebecca, born May 29, 1746, married Jaquelin Ambler. Rebecca Burwell, last mentioned, was the "Belinda" of Thomas Jefferson's college days.

Burwell Arms.

The Burwell tombs of Carter's Creek, Gloucester, bear the arms here given: A cross saltire between four eagles' heads erased.

THE BASSETT FAMILY.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BASSETT, of "Eltham," Farmington, and "Clover Lea," (born August 23, 1800, died August 28, 1878) married his cousin, Betty Burnet Lewis, daughter of Robert Lewis by his first wife, Judith Carter Browne, sister of George Washington Bassett's mother. Robert Lewis was son of Fielding Lewis and nephew of Gen. Washington.

Issue: Betty Bassett, married Ronald Mills; Georgianna Bassett, died infant; George Washington Bassett, died unmarried August 18, 1886; Virginia Bassett, deceased, married John H. Claiborne and left four children; Ella Bassett, married Lewis Washington and had a son and daughter, the latter dead; Francis Bassett and Mary Bassett.

Burwell Bassett, of "Eltham," frequently a member of House of Burgesses, was active as a patriot during the Revolution, died January 4, 1793, married, first, when he was nineteen, Ann, daughter of John Chamberlaine; no issue. He married, second, May 7, 1747, Ann Maria, born March 30, 1739, died December 17, 1777,

daughter of John Dandridge and sister of Martha Washington. Issue all by second wife. Elizabeth,* Ann Maria, William Burwell Bassett. The following is to be found in the *Virginia Gazette* of August 8, 1777: "Last Thursday about 11 o'clock in the forenoon arrived here from the seat of Burwell Bassett, Esq., in New Kent, Lady Washington, the amiable consort of his Excellency Gen. Washington; upon her arrival she was saluted with the fire of cannon and small arms, and was safely conducted to Mrs. Dawson's in this city.

John Bassett, born August 30, 1765, married Betty Carter Browne.

Francis Bassett, born December 19, 1767, died within a year after second marriage, married first in 1785.

George Augustine Washington (nephew of Gen. Washington), died in 1793. Issue: (1), Ann Maria Washington, died before 1840, married — Thornton. Issue: Churchill Thornton, of Wilkinson county, Miss., and Charles Thoraton, of Wilkinson county, Miss. John

* *Virginia Gazette* of March 25, 1773, has the following death notice: "Miss Betsey Bassett, eldest daughter of Burwell Bassett, Esq., of New Kent, a most amiable young lady, who died suddenly and before she had attained her fifteenth year.

What parent's heart but
Feels a parent's woe."

Bassett, born August 30, 1765, graduated at William and Mary, long a resident of Hanover county, Va., died in 1826, married September 2, 1786, Betty Carter Browne, of Salem, Mass., afterwards of "Elsing Green," King William county, Va., descendant of Rt. Rev. Albert Burnett, Bishop of Salisbury; William Burnett Browne's wife was Judith Walker Carter, daughter of Charles Carter, of "Clevo."

THE AMBLER FAMILY.

COL. EDWARD AMBLER, son of Col. John Ambler, married Sarah Taylor Holcombe, of Amelia county, Va. Had issue: (1), Richard, died infant; (2), Francis, died infant; (3), John, born 1812, died 1838. Married Catharine Nevison, daughter of Dr. William Tazewell; (4), Florence Edwena, married 1847 Achille Murat Willis, son of Colonel Byrd C. Willis.

Ambler Arms.

Sable on a fess, or, between three pheons, a lion passant, guardant, gules. Crest: Two dexter hands, conjoined, sustaining a royal crown.

Tombs of the family bear the arms we give quartered with those of the Jaquelin family. The immigrant married Elizabeth Jaquelin.

THE TAYLOE FAMILY.

JOHN TAYLOE was descended from William, who came to Virginia about 1650, and married Ann, daughter of Henry Corbin, whose sister married Richard Henry Lee, grandfather of Francis Lightfoot Lee. William Tayloe had a son John, who married Miss Elizabeth (Grayson) Lyde, and left three children—John, Betty, and Ann Corbin. This John married Rebecca, daughter of Governor George Plater, of Maryland, and had, it is said, twelve children. Of those, one son and eight daughters survived him. The eight daughters all married into prominent families.

Elizabeth married Gov. Edward Lloyd, of Maryland, in 1776. Rebecca married Francis Lightfoot Lee; Eleanor married Ralph Wormley, of Middlesex, in 1772; Ann Corbin married Thomas Lomax, of Caroline, in 1773; Mary married Mann Page, of Spottsylvania, in 1776.

In the *Virginia Gazette* of May 10, 1776, appears the following, under head of marriages: "Mann Page, Jr., Esq., of 'Mansfield,' to Miss Molly Tayloe, fifth daughter of the Hon. John Tayloe, of 'Mount Airy,' in Richmond county."

Catherine married Landon Carter, of Richmond county, in 1780; Jane married Robert Beverley, of Essex, in 1791; Sarah married Col. William Augustine Washington, in 1779.

John, son of John and Rebecca (Plater) Tayloe, and brother of those eight daughters, was born in 1771, and married, in 1792, Annie, daughter of Gov. Benjamin Ogle, of Maryland, and died in Washington in 1828, having had, it is said, fifteen children, amongst whom was a son John, the fourth of the name who entered the navy, and was distinguished in the battles of the old frigate constitution against the *Guerriere*, and with the *Cyane* and *Levant*. After the first action, the State of Virginia presented him a sword. (*Old Churches and Families, etc.*)

Tayloe Arms.

The original will of John Tayloe, of "Mount Airy," dated January 1, 1744, proved November 2, 1747, has two beautiful seals in black wax, bearing a sword between two lions addorsed. (*Richmond County Records.*)

THE LIGHTFOOT FAMILY.

PHILIP LIGHTFOOT, son of William Lightfoot, lived at Cedar Creek, Caroline county, Va., died 1786, was a lieutenant in Harrison's Artillery, Continental line. Philip Lightfoot, lieutenant First Continental Artillery, 1778, retired 1781. (*Historical Register*, Heitman.) He received two grants of land for his services; married Mary Warner Lewis, only daughter of Col. Charles Lewis and Lucy Taliaferro, his wife. Issue: An only child, Philip Lightfoot, of Port Royal, Va., born September 24, 1785, and died July 22, 1865, he married Sallie S. Bernard, daughter of William Bernard, of "Belle Gröve," King George county, Va., afterwards of "Mansfield."

William Lightfoot was a grandson of Philip Lightfoot, immigrant, whose epitaph at "Sandy Point" (Teddington), on James River, states that he was a Gray's Inn barrister and a grandson of a rector. Philip Lightfoot was a member of the Council in 1742 (see Journal for that year), also William Byrd, John Tayloe, John Custis, William Randolph, Thomas Lee, and John Robinson, Jr.

The *Virginia Gazette* of July 1, 1775, contains the following notice of death:

"Mrs. Mary Lightfoot, at York, relict of the late Hon. Philip Lightfoot, Esq., one of his Majesty's Council of this Colony, in the seventy-ninth year of her age."

The tomb of Philip² Lightfoot, at "Sandy Point," bears the following inscription:

"This tomb is sacred to the memory of the Hon. Philip Lightfoot, Esq., in various employments of public trust, an example of loyalty to his king and affection to his country. In the several relations of life a pattern worthy of imitation, an equanimity which few are capable of to whom fortune has been so auspicious conducted him with success through the various scenes of life. Contributed to the ornament of a the most exalted, not only with propriety but not imperious with advancement, he rose to almost the highest honors of his country. His rank and fortune made him extensively useful. He was descended of an ancient family in England, which came to Virginia in genteel and honorable character. On the 30th day of May, 1748, in the 59th year of his age, his spirit returned to the God who gave it, and his body reposes here, in the sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection."—*Critic*, Vol. II., No. 2.

"Mansfield" was a fine old colonial residence burned during the war between the North and South, was situated on the river about three miles below Fredericksburg, Va. Built of stone, a magnificent ruin, the walls of which are still standing, and it is to be hoped that some day it will be restored to its former grandeur, at present it is but a monument to the glory and wealth of past generations. The property is owned by Mr. William Bernard to whom it descended through his grandfather William Bernard. It stands in the midst of a splendid grove of chestnut trees of enormous size, numbering one hundred or more. There were three William Lightfoots in succession at "Sandy Point," and their tombs are still there, the first died at 1727, the second in 1809, and the third in 1810.—*History of St. Mark's Parish.*

The Lightfoot Arms.

Barry of six or. and gu. on a bend sa. three escallops or. sinister. (Corbin as on a chief or. three ravens ppr.) The crest is the head of an animal with ears pointed forward and tongue protruding.

THE THORNTON FAMILY.

FRANCIS³ THORNTON, who settled at "Snow Creek" in 1703, was the ancestor of the "Fall Hill" family. Francis³ was born January 4, 1682. There is recorded in Spottsylvania county a deed dated January 1, 1736, from Francis Thornton, of Saint Mary's parish, Caroline county, Va., gent., to his son Francis, Jr., conveying 41 acres of land at the falls of the Rappahannock River, which was granted to the father in 1720. Francis³ Thornton was a Burgess in 1723 and 1726. On December 15, 1739, Mrs. Mildred Willis, wife of Col. Henry Willis, formerly the wife of Roger Gregory, made a deed to her three daughters, one of whom was Frances, the wife of Francis Thornton, Jr.*

FRANCIS⁴ THORNTON (*Francis*,³ *Francis*,² *William*¹), of "Fall Hill," near Fredericksburg, born ———, died 1749, was a member of the House of Burgesses for Spottsylvania in 1744,

* Mildred Gregory, widow of Roger Gregory, and wife of Col. Henry Willis, was Mildred Washington, the aunt of General Washington, and mother of Frances, Elizabeth, and Mildred Gregory, and of Col. Lewis Willis and Ann Willis.

1745, 1752, 1754 (see Journal of Burgesses); was a justice of Spottsylvania, and was appointed colonel of militia in 1742. His will was dated November 11, 1748, and was proved in 1749. He left Frances Thornton, his wife, twelve negroes for her life, and one-fifth part of his cattle, horses, etc.; and during her widowhood, the lower half of the plantation on which he lived, with the houses and half the orchard, making 200 acres; also the use of all the household goods during her widowhood. To his son Francis, the remaining part of the plantation where he lived, with reversion of that part devised to his mother; to son George, all the land in King George county bought of Mr. Benjamin Berry, and two tracts in Orange county; to son William, all the lands in the great mountains of Orange county (Orange county at that time extended to the Ohio River, and embraced the present State of Kentucky), about 2,600 acres; to son John, land on the branch of the Naull and Massaponax, about 750 acres, and two lots in Fredericksburg; to daughter Mildred, £500 and one negro girl, and the same to daughter Mary. Appointed his wife, Frances Thornton, father, Francis Thornton, brother, John Thornton, and son, Francis Thornton, executors. Mary died without issue. Mildred married Charles Washington.

FRANCIS^b THORNTON married, in 1759, Ann Thompson, born 1744, and had (1), Mildred Washington, born December 20, 1761; married Col. Abraham Maury; Francis^c Thornton, born 1760-'70, married Sally Innes, born 1777, and had issue: Elizabeth, Frank, Sally, James Innes, Henry Innes, Robert Calloway, Catharine, and Butler Brayne. That the "Fall Hill" Thorntons were descended from Frances Gregory and Francis Thornton is certain, and it is equally certain that this Francis Thornton was the son of Francis Thornton of Caroline. Gov. Spottswood's widow, Ann Butler Brayne (her middle name being taken from her godfather, James Butler, Duke of Ormond), married the Rev. John Thompson, who came to this country about 1740, and settled as minister in Saint Mark's parish, where he continued until his death. His marriage with the widow Spottswood took place on the 7th November, 1742. She was one of his parishioners, and lived at Germanna. By this marriage he had two children: (1), Ann Thompson, born at Germanna, 1744, and married Mr. Francis Thornton, of "Fall Hill," at the age of fifteen years and eight months. There was much opposition on the part of the Spottswood children to the marriage of their mother to the Rev. John Thompson, they considering it a sacrifice of dignity,

etc., for the widow of Governor Spottswood to marry a "parson." So great was their opposition that she asked to be released from her engagement; but the "parson," being unwilling to relinquish the prize without a struggle, wrote a long, if not a very able, argument in defence of his cause, and succeeded in convincing her that it was highly proper, if not her duty, to accede to his entreaties; and accordingly they were married.

Governor Spottswood originated the order of "Knights of the Golden Horse-Shoe." On the 26th August, 1716, Governor Spottswood, John Fountaine, Robert Beverley (the historian), Colonel Robinson Dr. Robinson, Taylor Todd, Mason, Captain Clowder, Smith, and Brooke, an ancestor of the late Judge Brooke (Campbell says that the whole company numbered about fifty persons), started upon an expedition over the great mountains. Spottswood instituted what he called the "Tramontane" order, in commemoration of the expedition, each gentleman being entitled to wear the golden horse-shoe who could prove that he had drunk his Majesty's health on Mt. George. The golden horse-shoes descended as heirlooms in several families. Judge Brooke, in his autobiography, speaks of one in possession of Edmund Brooke, whose ancestor was of the party. (*History of St. Mark's Parish*)

Reuben Thornton of Drysdale parish, Caroline county, died in 1768; married Elizabeth, daughter of Roger and Mildred Gregory, and widow of Henry Willis, Jr. Reuben Thornton had no issue.

Thornton Arms.

Argent, a chevron sable between three hawthorn trees proper. Crest: out of a ducal coronet or, a dragon's head between two dragons' wings argent.

THE INNES FAMILY.

JAMES INNES was lieutenant-colonel of the Fifteenth Virginia regiment November, 1776. October 8, 1779, he was President of the Board of War, war office, Williamsburg. (See *Calendar of State Papers*, Vol. I., page 331.)

James Innes was a brother of Henry Innes. Hon. James Innes was the first Attorney-General of Virginia, and was offered the appointment of Attorney-General of the United States by President Washington, but declined. He died in Philadelphia, and lies buried in Christ Church burying-ground in that city. He married Miss Cocke, of Williamsburg, Virginia, and left an only child, Ann, who married Peyton Randolph. (*Richmond Standard*, January 22, 1881.)

THE TALIAFERRO FAMILY.

THE first of the family in Virginia was Robert Taliaferro,* gentleman, who was born about 1635 and died about 1700 (name written in the grant Talliver). The earliest grant was to him in Gloucester county, 1655, and he afterwards had other grants on the Rappahannock River for a large amount of land, including one of 6,300 acres which he patented jointly with Col. Lawrence Smith, of Gloucester, he married a daughter of Rev. Charles Grymes, who was a large land owner on the Rappahannock. Had issue: (1), Francis, living in Gloucester 1682, a justice of Essex county 1695-1700, married Elizabeth, daughter of Col. John Catlett, of Essex, and died 1710; (2), Lawrence, died 1726, married his cousin, ——— Taliaferro. Their children were: (1), Francis, of "Epsom," Spottsylvania county, vestryman of Saint George's parish, married, 1730, Elizabeth Hay and died 1757; (2), Col. John Taliaferro, of "Blenheim," Caroline county.

*There is on file a bond at Essex Courthouse, bearing the signature of Robert Taliaferro, a bold, clear signature, under date of 1687.

Francis and Elizabeth (Hay) Taliaferro, of "Epsom," had issue: (1), Ann Hay, born September 7, 1731, married Richard Brooke, of "Smithfield," Spottsylvania; (2), Sarah, born March 4, 1733, died March 2, 1740; (3), Col. Lawrence, of "Teso Hill," Orange county, Va., born December 7, 1734, died April 8, 1798 (served in the Revolution as colonel of the Minute-men of Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, married, first, October 17, 1758, Mary Jackson; (2), February 3, 1774, Sarah Dade); (4), Francis, born September 12, 1736, died March 2, 1740; (5), John, born April 19, 1738, died March 9, 1740; (6), Hay, of "Cheerful Hill," born March 17, 1740, married Lucy, widow of — Thornton, and daughter of Col. William Taliaferro, and had no issue, died aged about eighty-five; (7), Elizabeth, born October 4, 1741, lived to be about ninety years old, married, first, Col. William Taliaferro, and married, second, Capt. Benjamin Hume, and had no issue, lived at "Newington," Orange county, Va.; (8), Francis Whitaker, of "Epsom," born November 15, 1743 died 1815, married his cousin, Miss Jane Taliaferro, a daughter of Col. John Taliaferro,* of "Blen-

*Col. John Talliaferro, of "Blenhelm," married Miss Bankhead, whose father was Dr. James Bankhead, of Scotland. Dr. James Bankhead married Eleanor Monroe (said to have been aunt of the President). Col. John

heim"; (9), John lived at "Hagley," King George county, Va., born September 30, 1745, member of the County Committee of Safety, 1774-'76; sheriff, 1786; member House of Delegates, 1781, 1789, 1790, and died the last year, married Elizabeth, daughter of James Garnett, of Essex.

Col. Lawrence Taliaferro, of "Rose Hill," had issue by his first wife, Mary Jackson: Mary, Anna, and Sarah. Sarah married, first, Capt. Francis Dade, second, Capt. William

Taliaferro and his wife lived at "Blenheim," Caroline county, Va., and had children: (1), Richard, married Miss Gilmer, lived at a place called "Ashland," afterwards bought by Lewis B. Williams who called it "Yattan," Richard Henry Willis, Sr., was named for him; (2), Hay, of "Piedmont," married Mildred Taylor, of Orange, one of their sons was Dr. Edmond Taliaferro, of Orange Courthouse, Va.; (3), Lucy, married William C. Willis, commonly called "Gentleman Billy Willis," and lived at "Willis Grove" ("Retreat"), Orange county, Va., and had a numerous family; (4), John, a doctor and the oldest son of Col. John, was a man of considerable expectations, he never married and was killed by a fall from his horse, he was the uncle of Dr. Edmond Taliaferro, who studied medicine under him; (5), Jane, married Francis Whitaker Taliaferro, and was the grandmother of Charles C. Taliaferro, of Orange, and John Taliaferro, of Savannah, Ga.; (6), Charles, who died without issue, leaving a large property to his nephew Dr. Benjamin Y. Taliaferro. There were other children names not known to me, and these are not written in the order of their ages. — *Dr. A. G. Grinnan.*

Dade, who was born in 1760, was an officer in the Revolution. Col. Lawrence Taliaferro also had children by his second wife (Sarah Dade). Issue: Hay, of "Rose Hill," born 1775, died June 25, 1834, married in 1797, Susannah, daughter of Capt. Catlett Conway, of "Hawfield," Orange county, Va. It is said he commanded a company of cavalry in the Revolution, but we can find no official record of the fact. Fifth child was Baldwin Taliaferro, of "Wood Park," Orange county, afterwards removed to Tennessee, married, 1797, Anne, daughter of Gen. Alexander Spottswood, of "New Port," Spottsylvania, county, Va; sixth, Lawrence, never married; seventh, Francis, married Henrietta Thornton and moved to Kentucky; eighth, Elizabeth, married Battaile Fitzhugh, of "Santee"; ninth, Patsey, married Dr. William Fitzhugh, of Fauquier; tenth, Velinda, married Catlett Conway, Jr., of Green county, Va.; eleventh, Georgianna, never married.

Francis Whitaker and Jane (Taliaferro) Taliaferro, of "Epsom," had issue: (1), John Francis, of Orange, born 1798, died August 20, 1878, though so advanced in years in 1861, he volunteered at the first battle of Manassas and fought bravely in the Confederate ranks with the Fourth Alabama Regiment, he married Rebecca Mallory, granddaughter of Capt. Na-

thaniel Welsh, of the Revolution; (2), Dr. Benjamin F. Taliaferro, "Mount Sharon," Orange county, Va., inherited most of the estate of his maternal uncle, Charles Taliaferro, married in 1836, Louisa, daughter of William Fitzhugh Carter, of Fairfax county, and had no issue; third, Rev. Charles Champe Taliaferro, married Louisa A., daughter of John Armistead; fourth, Eliza, never married.

John F. and Rebecca (Mallory) Taliaferro had issue: (1), Francis Whitaker, a young man of great energy and promise, educated at the best Virginia academies and at the University of Virginia; taught school for a few years, and entered the Confederate army early in the war; became the confidential scout of General T. J. (Stonewall) Jackson, and after Jackson's death performed the same service for General Robert E. Lee; was killed while acting in this capacity; General Lee is said to have shed tears for his death; (2), John, unmarried in 1897; educated at Virginia academies and at the United States Military academy at West Point, where he entered in 1859; he resigned his appointment in May, 1861, and two weeks later received a commission from Governor John Letcher as second lieutenant in the provisional army of Virginia; was afterwards commissioned a lieutenant in the regular Confederate army, and was sent at

once to the front at Manassas; a short time later, while out scouting, he captured Captain Kellogg, of the Second Connecticut Regiment, whose sword he used during the rest of the war; for taking the first captain made prisoner on the Potomac, Lieutenant Taliaferro was presented with a fine black horse named Moreau, which made a famous record during the war, serving through the whole of it, though many times wounded; Lieutenant Taliaferro now served for a time on General Ewell's staff; was then transferred to the reserve corps of artillery as acting adjutant, and later became a member of General William N. Pendleton's staff. Gen. Pendleton makes honorable mention of him in his report of July 21, 1862, during the seven days' fight around Richmond. (*Rebellion Records*, Vol. II., page 535.) When his brother Francis was killed, Lieutenant Taliaferro rescued his body, and reported his death to Gen. Robert E. Lee; and the General then gave him his brother's place as confidential scout, promising that it should not stand in the way of his promotion. Constant exposure, however, weakened Lieutenant Taliaferro's health, and he was again assigned to General Ewell's staff, participating in the battles of the Wilderness and of Spottsylvania Courthouse, where he and his horse were severely wounded May 12, 1864.

After his recovery, he was allowed to join Mosby's command for the winter of 1864-'65, where he had many hair-breadth escapes, and many daring deeds are reported of him. John Taliaferro is now (1898) the principal of a flourishing school in Savannah, Ga., known as the "Savannah Academy." He spends his vacations at his old home in Orange county, Va., which has never been out of his family. He holds the original grant from King George II. of England to one of his Taliaferro ancestors, under date of 1727. (3), Elizabeth, married, in 1867, George W. Cooper, a fellow-scout of Francis and John Taliaferro under General Lee. She died in 1887, leaving five children. (4), Louisa C., died in 1886, unmarried. (5), Mary, married, in 1879, Samuel Meredith Maxwell, and has issue: James Taliaferro, born 1881; Elizabeth Meredith, born 1879; Rebecca Mallory, born 1885; Thomas Meredith, born 1887. (6), James Mallory, married Cora M. Hawes, and has one child, John, born 1894.

The Rev. Charles C. and Louisa (Armistead) Taliaferro had issue: (1), Robert, who, as a young man, entered the Confederate army, and was missing after the battle of Winchester, his fate being never known; (2), Charles C., of "Mount Sharon," Orange county, Va.; edu-

cated at the Episcopal High School and other Virginia academies; taught school for a short time, and joined the cavalry service of the Confederate army; he served through the war, making an honorable record, and a few years later continued his work as a teacher in Mississippi and in Savannah, Ga., where he taught a school for boys. Here he married, in 1881, a wealthy lady, Miss Marie M. Barclay, daughter of the son of the former British consul, by whom he has three children: Armistead, Barclay, and Charles C., Jr. In 1895 he married Miss Blanche Wilkinson, of Bedford county, Va. He has represented Orange county in the General Assembly of Virginia, where he made an excellent record, and has become prominent as a public-spirited citizen. His ancestral home, "Mount Sharon," is a splendid estate. (3), Jane, who married three times: first, Dr. Cassius Carter, who was taken dangerously ill on the night of his marriage, and died a few days thereafter; second, Colonel Lamar, of Georgia, who was killed at the battle of Monocacy a few weeks after his marriage; third, Mr. Day, of Georgia, by whom she had a daughter, and she died not long afterwards.

Hay Taliaferro, of "Piedmont," and Mildred (Taylor) Taliaferro had children, among whom

were. (1), Ellen, married Beverley Stanard, of Orange Courthouse, and had children: Mary, Hayward, Robert, Champe, and Beverley; (2), Lucy, married Mr. Bradley; (3), Jacqueline, of Orange Courthouse, married —, and has sons Garland and Jacqueline; (4), Edmund Pendleton Taliaferro, a prominent physician of Orange Courthouse, married Octavia Robinson, of Culpeper county, and had children as follows: (1), Victoria, first married Capt. Charles W. Hardy, of Norfolk, Va., and after his death, Capt. Thomas P. Wallace, of Fredericksburg, she died without children; (2), William R., married Margaret Nixon, who died leaving two children, Emily F., and Georgie N. Taliaferro; (3), Mary E., married George Cullen, of Huntington, W. Va., her children are Earnest B., George T., Harry E. P., Walter T., and Henry E. Cullen; (4), Annie P., married John L. Boatwright, Wilmington, N. C., children, E. P., J. H., V. T., and O. H. Boatwright; (5), Felix T., married Annie Penny, of Mobile, Ala., children, Annie P., Ida L., Edmund P., Georgia K., Bessie O., Felix T., Samuel P., and Clarence H. Taliaferro; (6), Hon. James P. Taliaferro, of Jacksonville, Fla., for several years chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, has become prominent in his State also as a successful business man. He was for sometime president

of a large lumber company, and is now (1898), president of the First National Bank of Tampa. He married Millicent J. Hardy, of Norfolk, Va., and has two daughters, Jessie Pendleton and Anna Virginia; (7), Edmund Pendleton, unmarried, resides at Jacksonville, Fla.; (8), Lucy Balmaine, unmarried, resides at Orange Courthouse, Va.; (9), Hayward, unmarried, resided in California, died 1898; (10), Walter R., married Caroline Davis Lippitt, of Wilmington, N. C., now lives at Charlotte, children, Julian, Walter R., T. C., Carroll D., Lula T., Thomas L., and Annie T. Taliaferro; (11), T. Carson, married Stella M. Morrison, Tampa, Fla., where they now reside. Their children are Stella M., Edmund P., and William M. Taliaferro.

THE MADISON FAMILY.

THE first John Madison patented land in Gloucester county, Va., 1653, his son John was the father of Ambrose Madison, who married Frances, daughter of James Taylor, August 29, 1721. Their son, James Madison, Sr., was married to Nelly, daughter of Francis Conway, of Caroline county, Va., September 13, 1749. James Madison, Jr. (the President), was born at "Port Conway," March 6, 1751. The eldest child (Nelly) of Ambrose Madison, eldest son of James Madison, Sr., married Dr. John Willis, and their living descendants are the children of the late Col. John Willis, of Orange.

Of Gen. William Madison, second brother of James Madison, Jr. (President), the living descendants are: The children of the late William Madison, of Texas, Dr. James Madison, of Orange county, Va., and children, and the children of Col. John Willis through their mother, the wife and children of William P. Dabney, the children of Robert Marye, the wife and children of Dorsey Taliaferro, of Texas, the children of Maj. John H. Lee by his second wife, Fanny, daughter of Lewis Willis and

Eliza Madison, the children of Dr. Robert Madison, the children of Daniel F. Slaughter by his first wife, Letitia Madison, and the children of Dr. Thomas T. Slaughter by his first wife.—*History of Saint Mark's Parish, Slaughter.*

James Madison was the son of John Madison, clerk of Augusta county, one of the Episcopal emigrants who disputed with the Scotch-Irish the honor of being the first to arrive in the Valley of Virginia. His son graduated at William and Mary College, studied law and then the ministry in England, where he attended the lectures of the celebrated Cavello, in natural science; became president of the college in 1777, and subsequently first bishop of the Episcopal church.—*Historical Magazine*, Vol. VI., No. 3, p. 181. Tyler.

THE SMITH FAMILY.

FIRST, Richard Bernard (?), of Petsworth, Buckinghamshire, England, married Anne Cordesoy, November 24, 1634. They were in Virginia in 1647, and Petsworth parish was named in their honor. Their estate in Gloucester was called "Purton."

Second, Anne Bernard, daughter of the above couple, in or before 1652 married Major John Smith, who was Speaker of the Burgesses in 1657, and was one of the chief sufferers by the Bacon Rebellion. It was through Anne Bernard that the "Purton" estate passed into the Smith family.

Third, John Smith, of "Purton," oldest son of the above couple, married, in 1680, Mary Warner, one of the three daughters of Colonel Augustine Warner. This oldest son, the second John Smith of "Purton," married Anne Alexander, and had by her one son, the third John Smith of "Purton," who died in 1735, leaving the "Purton" estate to Mary Willis, daughter of Colonel Francis Willis. After the death of the second John Smith of "Purton," in 1711 or 1712, his widow, Anne (Alexander) Smith, mar-

ried Henry Willis, afterwards of Fredericksburg, Virginia, and was his first wife.

Fourth, The second son of the second John Smith of "Purton" and Mary Warner was named Augustine Smith, after his grandfather, Colonel Augustine Warner, and was born on the 16th of June, 1689. He inherited "Shorter's Hill," in Middlesex county, and was the founder of the family known as the Smiths of "Shorter's Hill." This Augustine Smith married Sarah Carver, daughter of John Carver, of Gloucester, on the 9th of November, 1711. Their oldest son, John Smith of "Shorter's Hill," married Mary Jacqueline, daughter of Edward Jacqueline, whose daughter Elizabeth Jacqueline was the wife of Richard Ambler, and grandmother of Mary Willis Ambler, wife of John Marshall.

Fifth, Mildred Smith, one of the daughters of Augustine Smith and Sarah Carver, was born at "Shorter's Hill," on the 26th of January, 1743. She married John Willis, one of the sons of Col. Francis Willis and Ann Rich, and a brother of the Mary Willis who married Lewis Burwell.

Sixth, John Willis and Mildred Smith were the parents, among other children, of Francis Willis, who removed from Virginia to Georgia, and there became a member of Congress, 1792.

Seventh, Thomas Willis, son of the above Francis Willis, married Elizabeth Worsham in 1812, and was the father of Dr. Francis T. Willis, of Richmond, Virginia.—*Thomas M. Green.*

THE READE FAMILY.

1, **SIR EDWARD DYMOKE** or Dymock, as the name was sometimes spelled, hereditary champion of England in the time of Elizabeth had a second daughter, who married Sir Thomas Winderbausee, writer to the signet. Sir Thomas had a son, Sir Francis Winderbausee, who was the obnoxious Secretary of State under Charles I. Sir Thomas had also two daughters who married respectively two brothers named Reade, of those, (3), Mildred Winderbausee, married Robert Reade, Esq. Their oldest son, Robert Reade, was private secretary to his uncle, Sir Francis Winderbausee, a younger son named, (4), George Reade, emigrated to Virginia prior to 1637. It is said he was private acting governor of the Colony. He certainly was acting secretary during the absence of Kempe. In 1644 he was a Burgess from James City county, he was in the council in 1658-'59, and had the rank and title of colonel. His was Elizabeth Martian,(?) daughter of Col. Nicholas Martian, who was a Burgess in 1633. Col. George Reade had four sons, John, Thomas, Benjamin, and Francis,

of these Thomas was in the council in 1663. John had a daughter named Margaret Reade, who married Thomas Nelson, and was the grandmother of Governor Thomas Nelson, and the ancestress of all of that name and family, so distinguished in the affairs of Virginia during its history as a Colony or State. The distinguished Cobb family, of Georgia, are descended from Thomas Reade, son of George. Among other daughters, Col. George Reade and Elizabeth Martian had one named (5), Mildred Reade, who married colonel, or speaker Augustine Warner. They had three daughters. Mildred Warner married Lawrence Washington, and their daughter, Mildred, was the third wife of Col. Henry Willis, of Fredericksburg. Elizabeth Warner married Councillor John Lewis; and (6), Mary Warner, married John Smith, of "Parton." Their son, (7), Augustine Smith, married Sarah Carver, whose daughter, (8), Mildred Smith, married John Willis, their son, (9), Francis Willis, removed to Georgia and was a congressman from that State. His son, (10), Thomas Willis, was the father of (11), Dr. Francis T. Willis, of Richmond, Va.—*Thomas M. Green.*

“Free to every one to have esteem or contempt for gentle blood. Euripides preferred it to riches; Menander, virtue; Plato, glory; Aristotle, talent; Socrates, wisdom; St. Jerome, holiness. In a word, every one may place gentle descent on a different point of the scale of comparison. But that will leave it a fact. It does exist with its political history in the past, and its decided social influence in the present.”—*Granier De Cassagnac.*



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ERRATA.

Title-page and page 82, "Burrells" should be *Burwells*.

Page 11, "St. Algato" should be *St. Algate*.

Page 15, "Convent Garden" should be *Covent Garden*.

Page 33, "Rapid Anne" should be *Rapid Ann*.

Pages 35 and 44, "Historian" should be *Heitman*.

Page 52, "Lucetta Bonton" should be *Lucetta Bouton*.

Page 79, there is apparently an error in the use of the word "Herbertshire," which was discovered too late for proper correction. Seats of Stirling: Glorat, Stirlingshire, and Renton, Berwickshire.—*Burke*.

Page 83, "On the 30th of January, 1894, Byrd C. Willis, married Anne G. Crenshaw," should be *31st January*.

Page 83, "Annie G. Crenshaw" should be *Anne G. Crenshaw*.

Page 89, "The last and ninth child of Col. Byrd Willis was born 15th of October, 1727," should be *1827*.



